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Journey to the East
ARCHIECOMICS.COM
SEGA
ISSUE 6
SONIC
SUPER SPECIAL

SONIC SUPER SPECIAL

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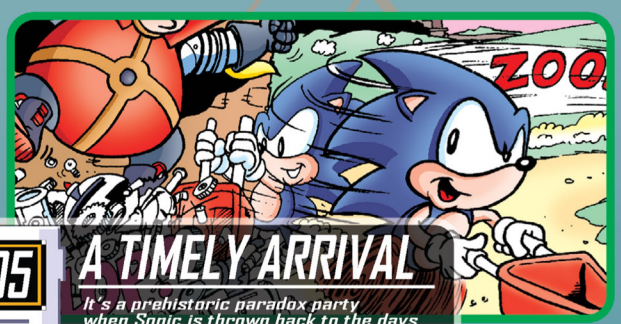
Sonic and Bunnie are FIGHTING? What could possibly tear these two fellow Freedom Fighters apart?! If you guessed Dr. Eggman--you'd be wrong?!



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It's a prehistoric paradox party when Sonic is thrown back to the days of the Dinos! Can Sonic escape back to his own time, or will he become extinct?!

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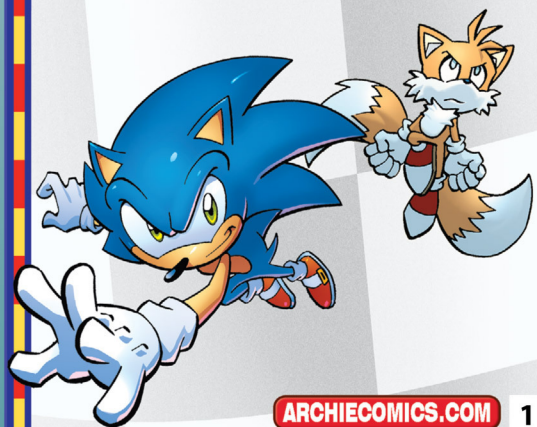

SONIC SUPER SPECIAL

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FEATURING THE TALENTS OF

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TRACY YARDLEY!
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SONIC SUPER SPECIAL MAGAZINE
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SONIC GRAMS PRESENTS

HEY KIDS!

WRITE TO US @: SUPER SPECIAL DELIVERY MAIL c/o ARCHIE COMIC PUBLICATIONS, INC. P.O. BOX # 419 MAMARONECK NY 10543-0419
YOU CAN ALSO WRITE IN VIA E-MAIL: SONIC@ARCHIECOMICS.COM

LETTERS

Welcome to the SONIC SUPER SPECIAL MAGAZINE! We hope ya'll loved last issue's super awesome pull out posters! We've been getting plenty of letters sent to "SUPER SPECIAL DELIVERY" and we're happy to hear how much you guys and gals are all enjoying it! Make sure to keep writing in and let us know what you're likin', what you're lovin', or what's leaving you in the dust!

Dear 'Super Special Delivery',
Way to go on the Poster Spectacular! I bought two so I could use each and every poster!

I like your thinking! We had a great time putting it together, here's hoping for another special poster issue in the future!

Perhaps a future Spectacular issue could have stickers? I'd love for Scourge and Bunnie to adorn my laptop!

Sincerely, Curtis R. sent to sonic@ archiecomics.com

Now there's an idea that really sticks! Maybe someday! Thanks for writing in, Curtis!

Dear 'Super Special Delivery',
I'm a big fan of Sonic. My friends got me into it and I really like it. My favorite characters are Vector, Knuckles, and Espio the Chameleon. Espio is my favorite. Out of all of the Freedom Fighter groups, I really want to know all about Team Chaotix! I love all the work you do, keep doing it!

Love, Miranda B. from South Carolina

Thanks for the letter, Miranda! This is my favorite question! Team Chaotix are a gang of friends who protect Angel Island and the Master Emerald from the forces of evil. However, they have been known to focus their attention on other work, including detective services! For more on Team Chaotix and the entire world of Sonic, check out the Complete Sonic Comic Encyclopedia, available now at a fine bookstore near you and for digital download on the Sonic Comics app! Plugplugplugplug

SUPER SPECIAL DELIVERY

Dear 'Super Special Delivery',
I'll start out with saying that I love Sonic the Hedgehog! I love his personality and everything! All of the characters are awesome but I like one in particular: Tails! Could you mark me down as Tails's #1 fan? He is so cool!

You can be whichever number fan you want, but I think Sonic may be Tails's #1 fan already! He's his best bud after all!

I also have a few questions to ask you.

I'm ready!

Number 1: Is Sonic and Mega Man's "Worlds Collide" issue going to be its own series or will it be in certain separate issues, like Mega Man or Sonic the Hedgehog?

Worlds Collide will span across the three main titles, Sonic the Hedgehog, Sonic Universe, and Mega Man. For more info, flip to page 5 for a complete schedule of all the crossover issues!

Number 2: Is Tails going to have his own comic book series, because Sonic and Knuckles already have theirs?

Tails actually had his own mini-series a while back! Coincidentally, Sonic Select 8 will feature the complete Tails mini-series, and other Tails stories, so be sure to check it out later this year! Also coming soon to graphic novel is Sonic Universe Volume 5, The Tails Adventure! Double the Tails, double the tales, double the double!

And number 3: Are there any comic conventions coming up? I want to get the latest update!

The next big con will be San Diego Comic Con, happening from July 18th to the 21st! Hope to see ya there!

Keep making awesome comics, guys!

Tails's #1 fan,
Trevor H.
from Connecticut

Will do, Trevor!

Dear 'Super Special Delivery',
Will Metal Sonic come back? If he does, will he be good or evil?

From one of your favorite fans,
Noah S.
from Massachusetts

Good question, Noah! You'll be able to find out the exact answers to that in the double-sized Sonic Universe #50, which features an all-new Metal Sonic story, so get hyped!

Dear 'Super Special Delivery',
I have a question that I'd like to ask: Why aren't Sonia and Manic from Sonic Underground in the comics?

Actually, they are! You can see the entire Sonic Underground crew in Sonic Select Volume 4, where Sonic travels to different zones, and one of them just so happens to be the world of Sonic Underground! You can pick up Sonic Select Volume 4 at a fine book store near you or for digital download on the Sonic Comics app! Plugplugplugplug

I am a big Sonic fan. My friends Katie, Kenedy, Alezta play Sonic with me. We each portray a character, I get to play as Sonic himself!

From Billy C.
from Alberta

Cool beans! Do you run at speeds above 700mph? It's not an easy feet! Haha, get it? It's funny because of feet! So long, Billy!

That's all for this edition of SUPER SPECIAL DELIVERY. Keep sending in your letters, we wanna hear from YOU!

See ya next time!

SUPER SHOUT-OUTS

" I saw the preview for SU #50, and Shard VS a Metal Sonic? THAT'S SO COOL!!! "
~P.M.P.
sent to sonic@archiecomics.com

"Espio the Chameleon is the coolest ninja I know. "
~ Damon H.
sent to sonic@archiecomics.com

"Keep on juicin'! "
~ Shray B.
sent to sonic@archiecomics.com

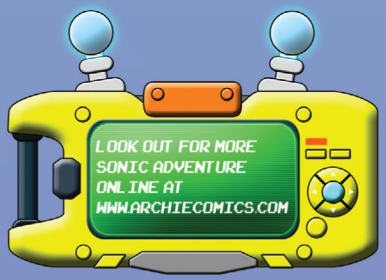
"Keep making the world's coolest comic even cooler."
~ Giovanni D.
sent to sonic@archiecomics.com

"Keep up the fight Sonic!"
~ Ash T. from Austrailia

"This comic book is now what I look forward to every month."
~ Snerd G.
sent to sonic@archiecomics.com

"You guys keep up the excellent work! "
~ Mindy M. from N.S. Canada

"Don't stop being way past cool! "
~ Malik V.
sent to sonic@archiecomics.com



SECRETS FROM "WORLDS COLLIDE": REVEALED!

Sonic the Hedgehog and Mega Man™ – two of the most iconic characters in video game history. They've got dozens of games to their names. They've shown up on the Sega Genesis and other consoles-- but never have they actually met each other.

All of that changes this summer with the beginning of "When Worlds Collide." Starting with Mega Man™ #24, this special event will and continue in all three titles – Sonic the Hedgehog, Sonic Universe and Mega Man™! This twelve-part epic will have Sonic and Mega Man™ face their biggest challenges yet – including each other!

Dr. Eggman and Dr. Wily are no strangers to robots, world-conquest, and being defeated by cool, blue heroes. But when teamed-together? Well that's a recipe for big blue destruction! So how are these two evil geniuses FINALLY meeting each other? "I don't want to spoil the surprise," responds writer Ian Flynn, "but I will point out both Sonic and Mega Man™ have to deal with brilliant (if mad) scientists. Dr. Eggman has a history of messing with stuff like ancient gods and Chaos Emeralds. Dr. Wily has tampered with the time stream. Between the two of them, they could cause some shenanigans." There's also the matter of *spoiler alert* a little thing called the "Skull Egg Zone"!

Flynn will have more than just a few shenanigans to deal with, as "Worlds Collide" will span twelve full issues, broken in 4-part acts. (See the right bar for a complete listing of each issue and the order in which to read them in.) Flynn says that, "some of the most fun has been teaming Dr. Eggman with Dr. Wily. They're both very big personalities, and they feed off each other very well. I love telling stories and entertaining people, so getting to write for all these series is a blast. That, and I grew up enjoying

HEY KIDS! LIKE FREE COMICS?

PICK UP THE OFFICIAL WORLDS COLLIDE: FLIP BOOK PRELUDE ON MAY 4TH FOR

FREE COMIC BOOK DAY!

FIND A COMIC SHOP NEAR YOU!

COMIC SHOP LOCATOR SERVICE
888-COMIC-BOOK
comicshoplocator.com

It's TWO free comic books in ONE! Just in time for the start of the epic Sonic the Hedgehog and Mega Man™ crossover event, "Worlds Collide," comes a primer issue exclusively for Free Comic Book Day! Witness the journey these two epic heroes from both Sega and Capcom took to finally meet each other – Mega Man™'s journey chronicled on one side, and Sonic the Hedgehog's on the other! This is the must-have primer for the biggest comic book event of 2013 – as video game icons Sonic the Hedgehog and Mega Man™ meet for the very first time anywhere – featuring art from both Sonic and Mega Man™ comic book fame! ■

Sonic and Mega Man™, so it's a double treat for me."

The double treat for fans will be seeing these two icons of video game culture interact -- and while the details of that are, as Ian said, a top secret -- we DID hear Dr. Eggman muttering something about "roboticization," and Dr. Wily whispering about "Robot Masters." Then they giggled together about "Chaos Emeralds." Whatever they're plotting, it can't be good.

So how exactly does the look of these two iconic franchises meld together? "We want to remain as respectful as possible to the Japanese designs, while delivering solid American comic book storytelling," says Sonic and Mega Man™ comic art legend Patrick "SPAZ" Spaziante, "It's a fine line to walk, but Archie has been doing it for quite a while now, with Mega Man™ for the past few years, and with Sonic for twenty years!" Fans have come to know SPAZ as the driving artistic force behind the titanic Sonic: Genesis and Mega Man™: Let the Games Begin story arcs -- and Spaz will be handling the cover art for all twelve parts of the crossover event!

It's a star-studded adventure spanning multiple worlds, with over a dozen heroes, and every Robot Master – ever! Whether you're a passing fan, only follow the games, or a veteran fan of the comics, you'll love this once in a lifetime crossover event! ■

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SETTING THE STAGE

PREP FOR THE CROSSOVER WITH THE FOLLOWING LEAD-IN ISSUES!

WORLDS COLLIDE RELEASE SCHEDULE

APRIL
- ■ MEGA MAN™ #24
- ■ SONIC UNIVERSE #51

MAY
- ■ SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #248
- ■ MEGA MAN™ #25
- ■ SONIC UNIVERSE #52

JUNE
- ■ SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #249
- ■ MEGA MAN™ #26
- ■ SONIC UNIVERSE #53

JULY
- ■ SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #250
- ■ MEGA MAN™ #27
- ■ SONIC UNIVERSE #54

AUGUST
- ■ SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #251

DON'T MISS AN ISSUE!

Get the complete story of "When Worlds Collide" by subscribing to all three titles at this incredible low price! LIMITED TIME ONLY!

Package Includes:
- 1 year subscription to Sonic the Hedgehog
- 1 year subscription to Sonic Universe
- 1 year subscription to Mega Man™

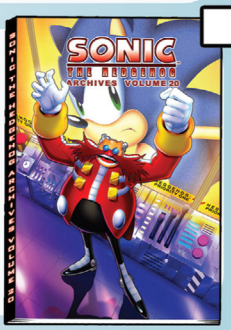
Offer available @ archiecomics.com for a limited time!

SONIC SUPER SPECIAL PRESENTS:

THE GRAPHIC NOVEL CHECKLIST

Sonic Select: Book 7
Releases - 2/13/2013 $11.99 US/$13.99 CAN

Princess Sally Acorn is the single most famous Sonic character to come from Sonic media OTHER than the games! This volume of Sonic Select collects signature Sally stories, including the entire hard-to-find Princess Sally Mini-Series!

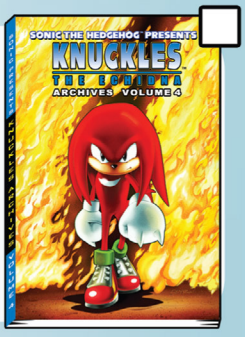


Sonic Archives Volume 20
Releases - 2/27/2013 $7.99 US/$8.99 CAN

The bestselling Sonic Archives continues! Mysteries abound in this lead-up to Sonic's third major milestone! This volume features the dramatic return of Sonic's worst enemy! SONIC ARCHIVES VOLUME 20 collects issues #75-78 of the Sonic the Hedgehog comic book.

Sonic Saga Series Vol. 2: Order from Chaos
Releases - 3/13/2013 $11.99 US/$13.99 CAN

Sonic's epic adventures aren't just stories – they're SAGAS! Blast into the action at Sonic speed with the continuation of the all-new Sonic Saga series! SONIC SAGA VOL. 2 collects selected stories from Sonic the Hedgehog #168-172.



Knuckles Archives Vol. 4
Releases - 4/17/2013 $9.99 US/$10.99 CAN

Knuckles, Sonic's original "friendly nemesis" and the last guardian of the Floating Island, is on a quest to uncover the truth of his past! Knuckles Archives Volume 4 collects issues #16-21 of the Knuckles the Echidna comic book.

SONIC SUPER DIGEST

ISSUE 1

ISSUE 2

Sonic Super Digest is Back

-- and with even more classic adventure from the Sonic comic library! This issue hosts a special spotlight on Knuckles and the Chaotix, as secrets from the mysterious Floating Island abound! Perfect for fans new and old, Sonic Super Digest collects tons of comic stories, coloring pages, bonus content, and features an all-new cover by Sonic artist supreme Tracy Yardley! And colors by Matt Herms! ■

SONIC SUPER SPECIAL

REVIEW:

SONIC & ALL-STARS RACING TRANSFORMED

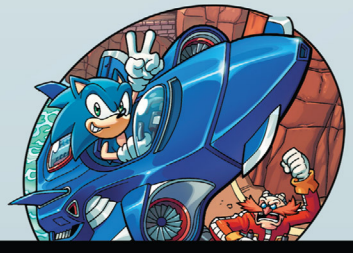
Rev up those engines, because Sonic is back in the fast lane with the best racing game in the series to date!

Sonic and All Stars Racing Transformed is not your average racing game. As the title suggests, this is **racing *TRANSFORMED***, so that means that every vehicle in the game has the ability to transform into one of three modes. There's the normal car for land, a boat for the sea, and a jet for the air. Each controls exactly how you'd imagine, but if you want a different feel each time, you can unlock control mods by playing career mode. I personally enjoy the **Genesis mod**, give it a shot!

There's quite a colorful cast of characters and tracks right from the get go, but as you play, you can collect stars to **unlock** even more **secret characters** and **locations**!

The tracks are packed with **alternate pathways**, be sure to search for them because it could cost you the race if you don't know the fastest route, particularly when the game is played on the hardest difficulty. **TIP: Look for the Air Transform sections, the jet paths are faster than any other path!**

All in all, Sonic and All Stars Racing Transformed is a fast-paced, beautifully vibrant, and just plain fun racer that any Sonic or racing game fan would enjoy! -Vincent Lovallo ■



SONIC UNIVERSE #45

PICK UP OUR EXCLUSIVE COMIC ADAPTION OF SONIC AND ALL STARS RACING TRANSFORMED AVAILABLE NOW ON THE SONIC COMICS APP!

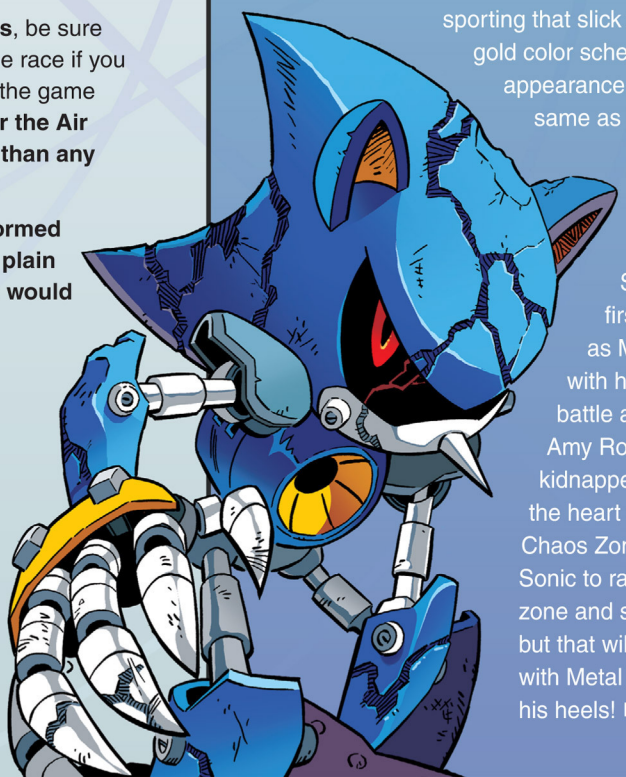
HEAVY METAL

METAL SONIC IS TAKING CENTER STAGE IN SONIC UNIVERSE #50!

INCLUDES 48 PAGES AND A FOIL COVER VERSION EXCLUSIVE TO COMIC SHOPS!

Sonic Universe is about to hit its second milestone issue! For such a big event, we need to have a big story. The sparks will fly as past and present collide– Shard versus Metal Sonic! The original Mecha versus the newest Metal! A robot that gained a soul versus the soulless engine of destruction! Can Shard talk some sense into his metal "brother" and turn Metal Sonic away from the Eggman Empire? Or is Metal Sonic truly merciless? Is Shard doomed? And who could get caught in the crossfire? So many questions, and only one way to get the answer! Don't miss the fiftieth issue!

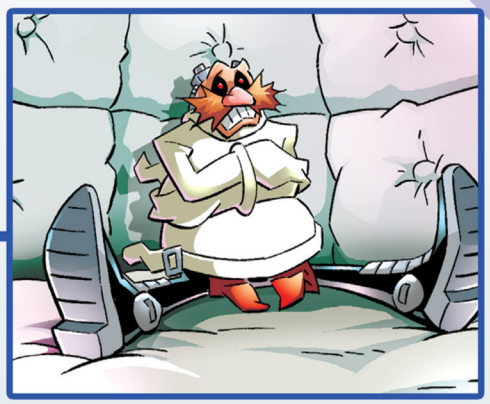
But that's not all! Shard wasn't always sporting that slick black-and-gold color scheme. In his first appearance, he looked the same as the modern Metal Sonic. As part of the celebration, we're including Shard's very first appearance as Metal Sonic with his very first battle against Sonic! Amy Rose has been kidnapped and hidden in the heart of the Collision Chaos Zone. It's up to Sonic to race through the zone and save the day- but that will be hard to do with Metal Sonic hot on his heels! ■



SONIC SUPER SPECIAL COMIC FEATURE:

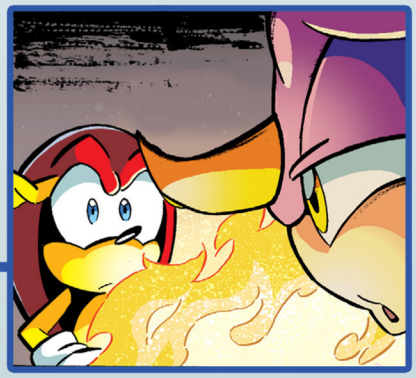
PREVIOUSLY...

AFTER THE FALL OF EGGMAN AND THE EVIL DOCTOR'S DECENT INTO MADNESS, SONIC AND THE HEROIC FREEDOM FIGHTERS THOUGHT THEY HAD FINALLY VANQUISHED EVIL FOR GOOD. LITTLE DID THEY KNOW, THE **TREACHEROUS SNIVELY**, EGGMAN'S CHIEF LACKEY, HAD BEEN PLOTTING BEHIND THE SCENES WITH A NEW EVIL EMPIRE-- **THE IRON DOMINION!**



LEAD BY THE FEROCIOUS **IRON QUEEN** AND HER HULKING **IRON KING**, THE IRON DOMINION IS POISED TO SWEEP IN AND FILL THE HOLE LEFT BY THE INSANE AND DEBILITATED **DR. EGGMAN.** A SHADOW LOOMS OVER THE CITY OF **NEW MOBOTROPOLIS** AND A STORM IS BREWING THE LIKES OF WHICH THE **FREEDOM FIGHTERS** HAVE NEVER SEEN!

ESPIO THE CHAMELEON, THE PREMIERE **NINJA** OF THE **CHAOTIX** TEAM OF **FREEDOM FIGHTERS**, HAS A SPECIAL CONNECTION TO THIS IMPENDING DISASTER, AND HE'S ABOUT TO FIND OUT THAT THE PAST HAS COME BACK TO **HAUNT HIM IN A BIG WAY...**

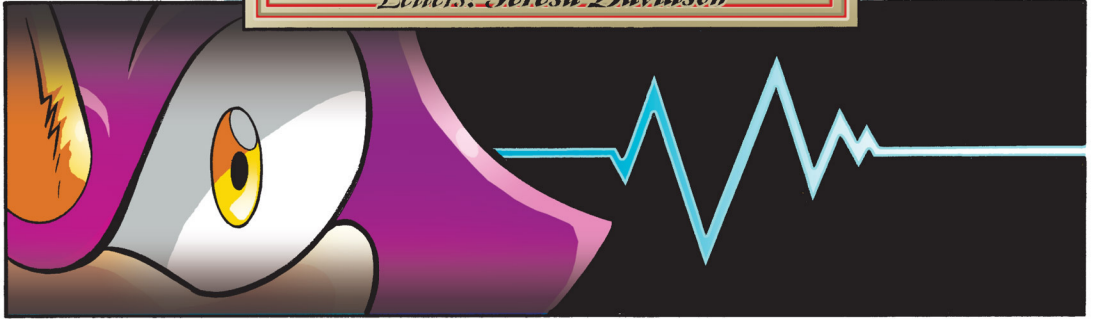


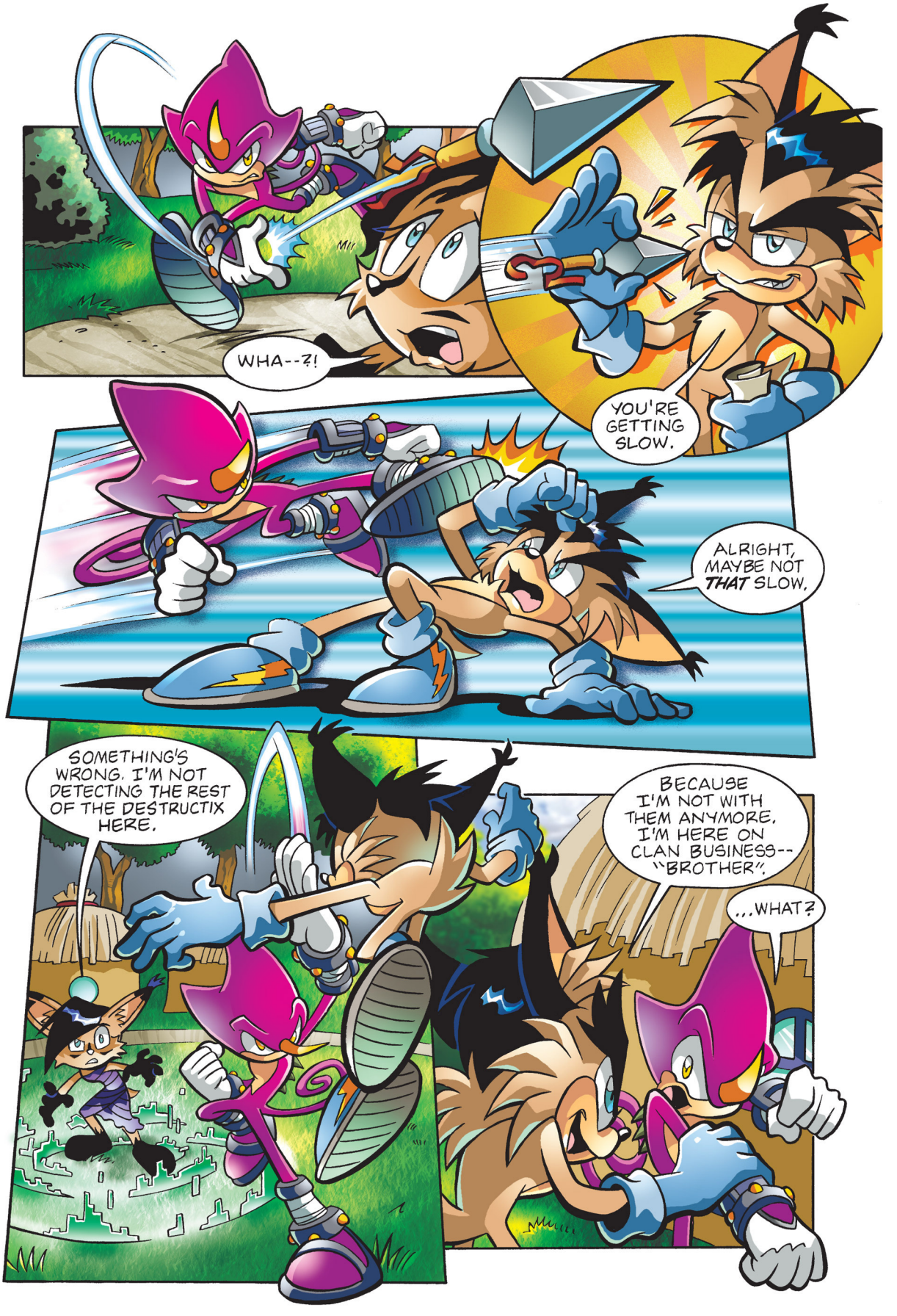
DID YOU KNOW...

The IRON DOMINION first appeared in Sonic the Hedgehog #60, where Sonic, Tails, and Monkey Khan took on the Iron King and Queen amidst the towering inferno that is MOUNT STORMTOP as the duo ventured around the globe in search of Ixis Naugus! The story is chronicled in the Sonic Archives Vol. 16 graphic novel! ■

SELECTIONS FROM THE IRON DOMINION SAGA

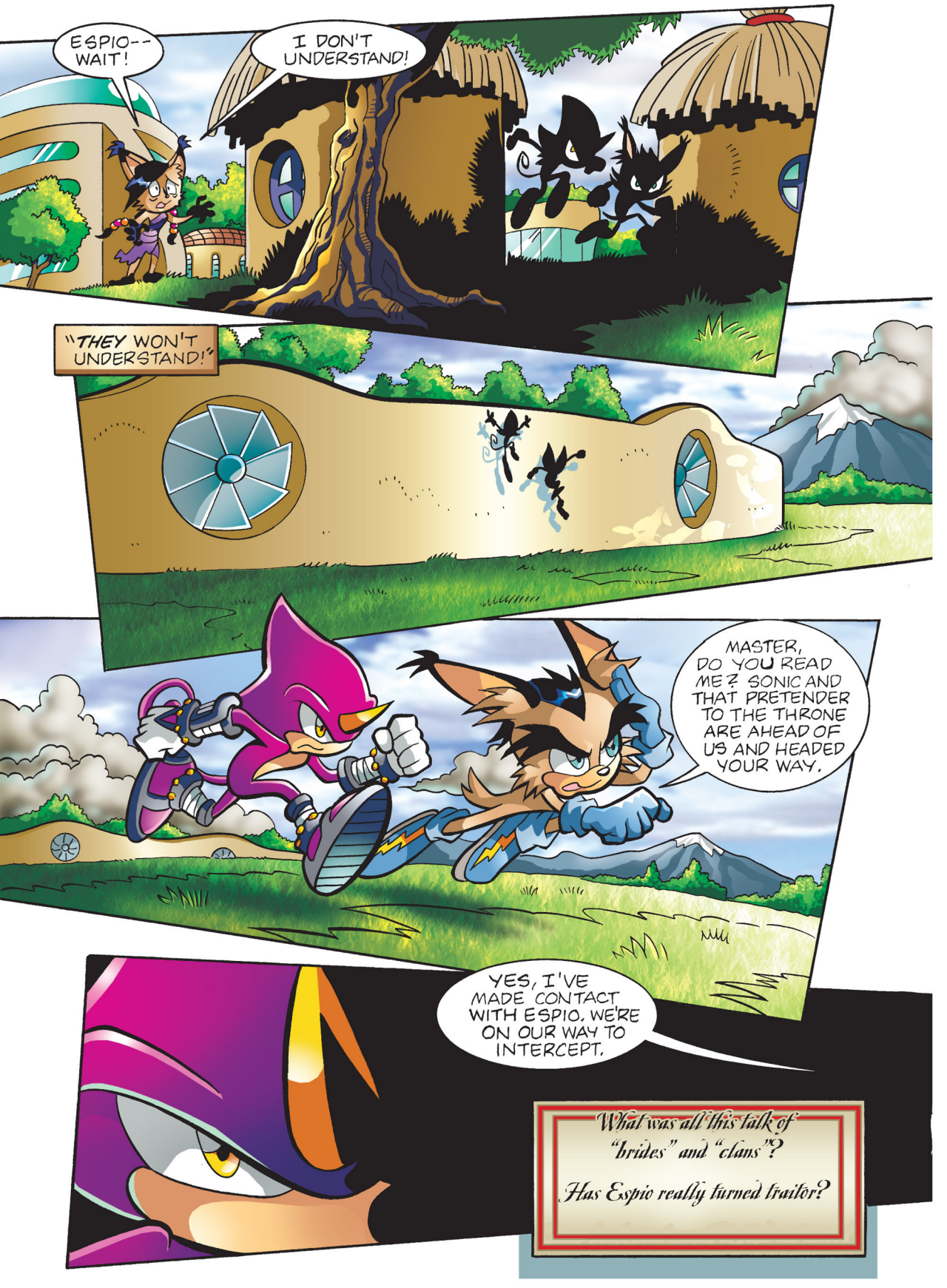
Writer: Ian Flynn
Pencils: Tracy Yardley!
Inks: Jim Amash • Colors: Matt Herms
Letters: Teresa Davidson

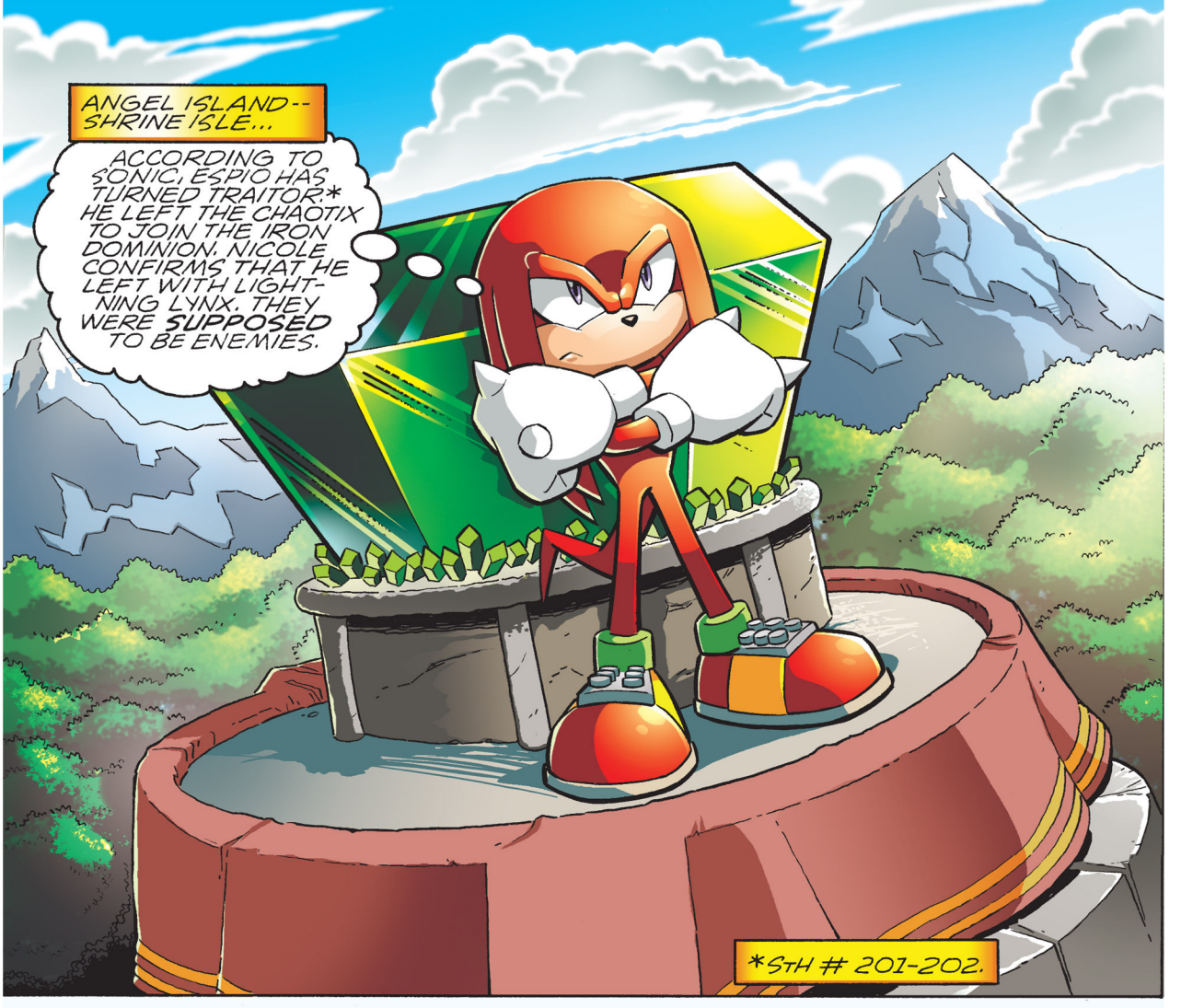



WHA--?!
YOU'RE GETTING SLOW.
ALRIGHT, MAYBE NOT THAT SLOW.
SOMETHING'S WRONG. I'M NOT DETECTING THE REST OF THE DESTRUCTIX HERE.
BECAUSE I'M NOT WITH THEM ANYMORE. I'M HERE ON CLAN BUSINESS-- "BROTHER".
...WHAT?

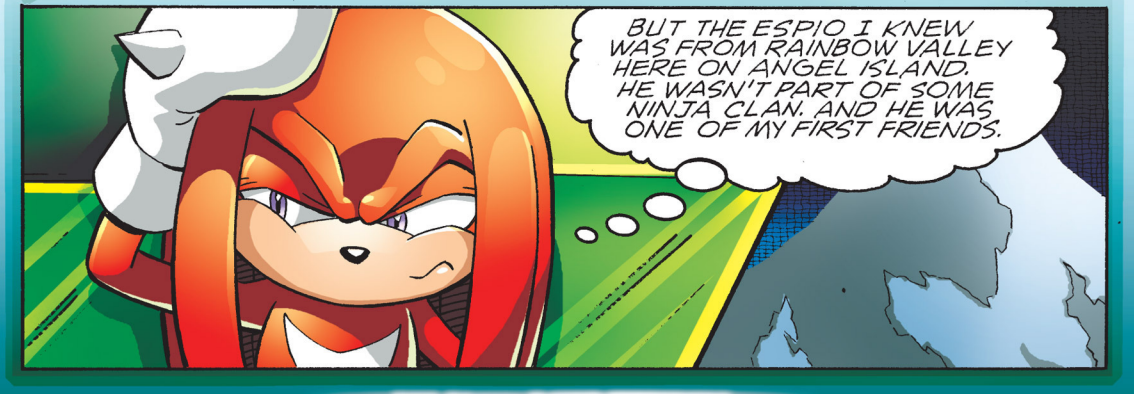
THE CLAN WARS ARE OVER.
THE BRIDE OF FOUR HOUSES RULES US ALL NOW.
IMPOSSIBLE.
IT'S THE TRUTH.
SHE SLEW THE BRIDE OF RICH NIGHTS AND TOOK THE YAGYU CLAN AS HER OWN. THE OTHERS FELL INTO PLACE IN SHORT ORDER.
LIES! THE SHINOBI CLAN WOULD NEVER...!
I BRING ORDERS FROM THE BRIDE OF CONSTANT VIGIL HERSELF. ORDERS SHE ENTRUSTED TO ME.
BUT... YOU'RE NOT...
I AM NOW.
THE BRIDE OF THE CONQUERING STORM SAW THE VALUE IN AN AGENT ALREADY ESTABLISHED IN THE REGION.

ESPIO, WHAT IS LIGHTNING TALKING ABOUT? WHAT BRIDES? WHAT CLANS?
I... CANNOT EXPLAIN.
BUT WHY NOT?
MAYBE THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS CAN HELP?
NO.
I HAVE BEEN SUMMONED. I MUST FULFILL MY NEW DUTIES.
TELL KNUCKLES I...
NEVERMIND. GOOD-BYE, NICOLE.


ESPIO--
WAIT!
I DON'T
UNDERSTAND!
"THEY WON'T
UNDERSTAND!"
MASTER,
DO YOU READ
ME? SONIC AND
THAT PRETENDER
TO THE THRONE
ARE AHEAD OF
US AND HEADED
YOUR WAY.
YES, I'VE
MADE CONTACT
WITH ESPIO. WE'RE
ON OUR WAY TO
INTERCEPT.
What was all this talk of
"brides" and "clans"?
Has Espio really turned traitor?

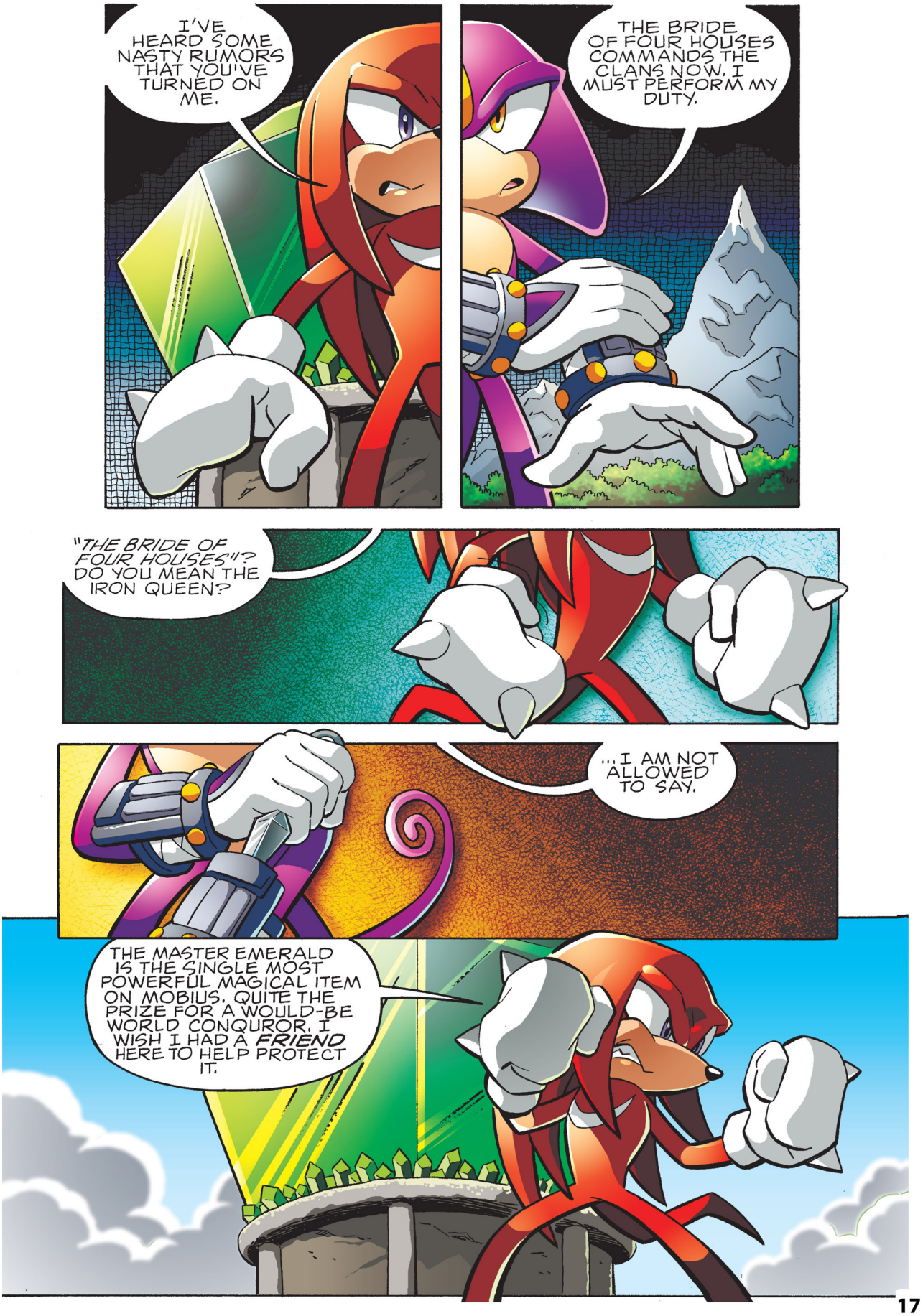

ANGEL ISLAND -- SHRINE ISLE...
ACCORDING TO SONIC, ESPIO HAS TURNED TRAITOR.* HE LEFT THE CHAOTIX TO JOIN THE IRON DOMINION. NICOLE CONFIRMS THAT HE LEFT WITH LIGHTNING LYNX. THEY WERE SUPPOSED TO BE ENEMIES.
*STH # 201-202.

Friend In Deed PART ONE

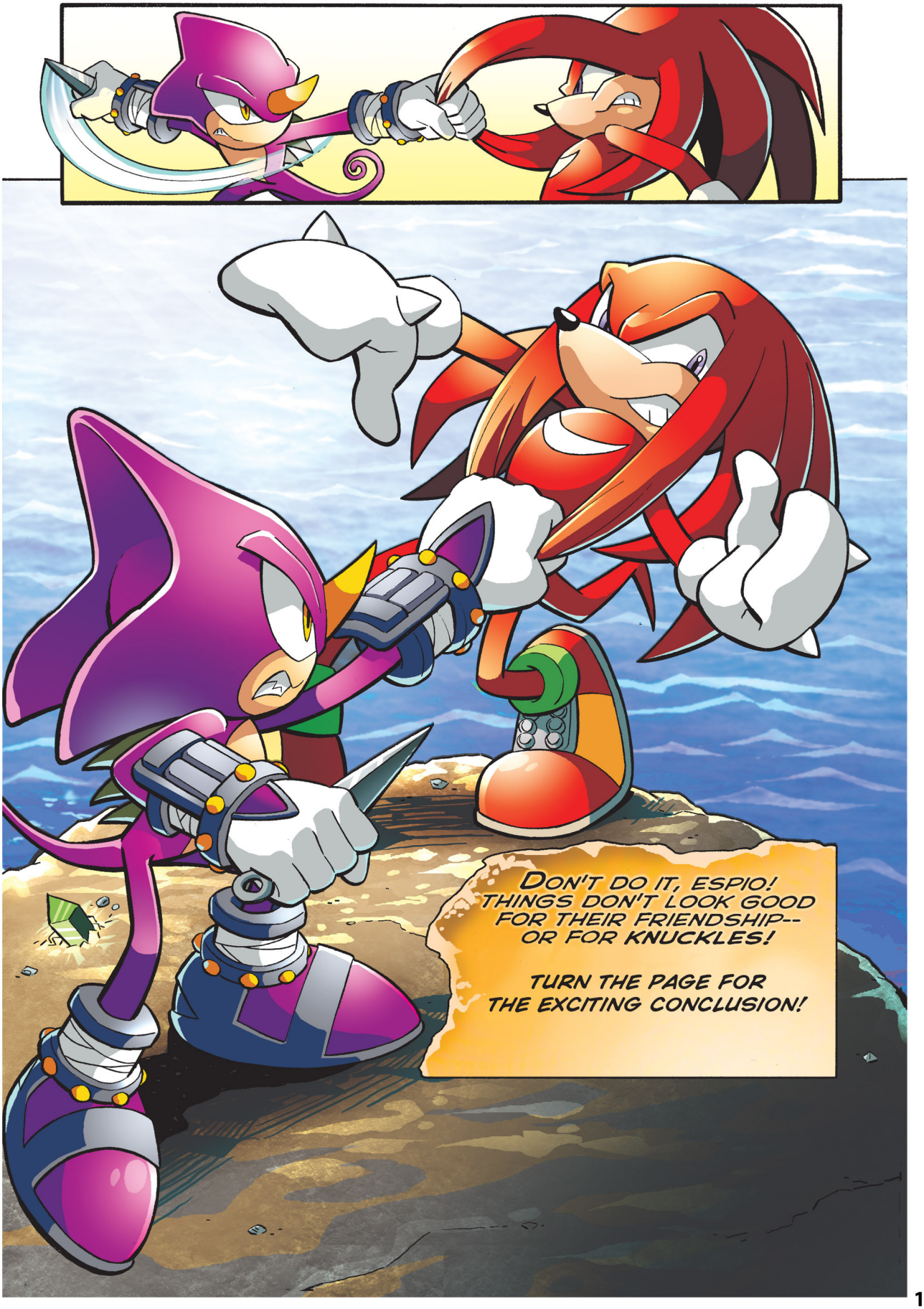

BUT THE ESPIO I KNEW WAS FROM RAINBOW VALLEY HERE ON ANGEL ISLAND. HE WASN'T PART OF SOME NINJA CLAN. AND HE WAS ONE OF MY FIRST FRIENDS.

Writer: IAN FLYNN
Pencils: JAMAL PEPPERS
Inks: TERRY AUSTIN
Colors: MATT HERMS
Letters: JOHN WORKMAN

ESPIO.
GUARDIAN.


I'VE HEARD SOME NASTY RUMORS THAT YOU'VE TURNED ON ME.
THE BRIDE OF FOUR HOUSES COMMANDS THE CLANS NOW. I MUST PERFORM MY DUTY.
"THE BRIDE OF FOUR HOUSES"? DO YOU MEAN THE IRON QUEEN?
...I AM NOT ALLOWED TO SAY.
THE MASTER EMERALD IS THE SINGLE MOST POWERFUL MAGICAL ITEM ON MOBIUS. QUITE THE PRIZE FOR A WOULD-BE WORLD CONQUROR. I WISH I HAD A FRIEND HERE TO HELP PROTECT IT.

TOO BAD FOR YOU.


DON'T DO IT, ESPIO! THINGS DON'T LOOK GOOD FOR THEIR FRIENDSHIP-- OR FOR KNUCKLES!
TURN THE PAGE FOR THE EXCITING CONCLUSION!

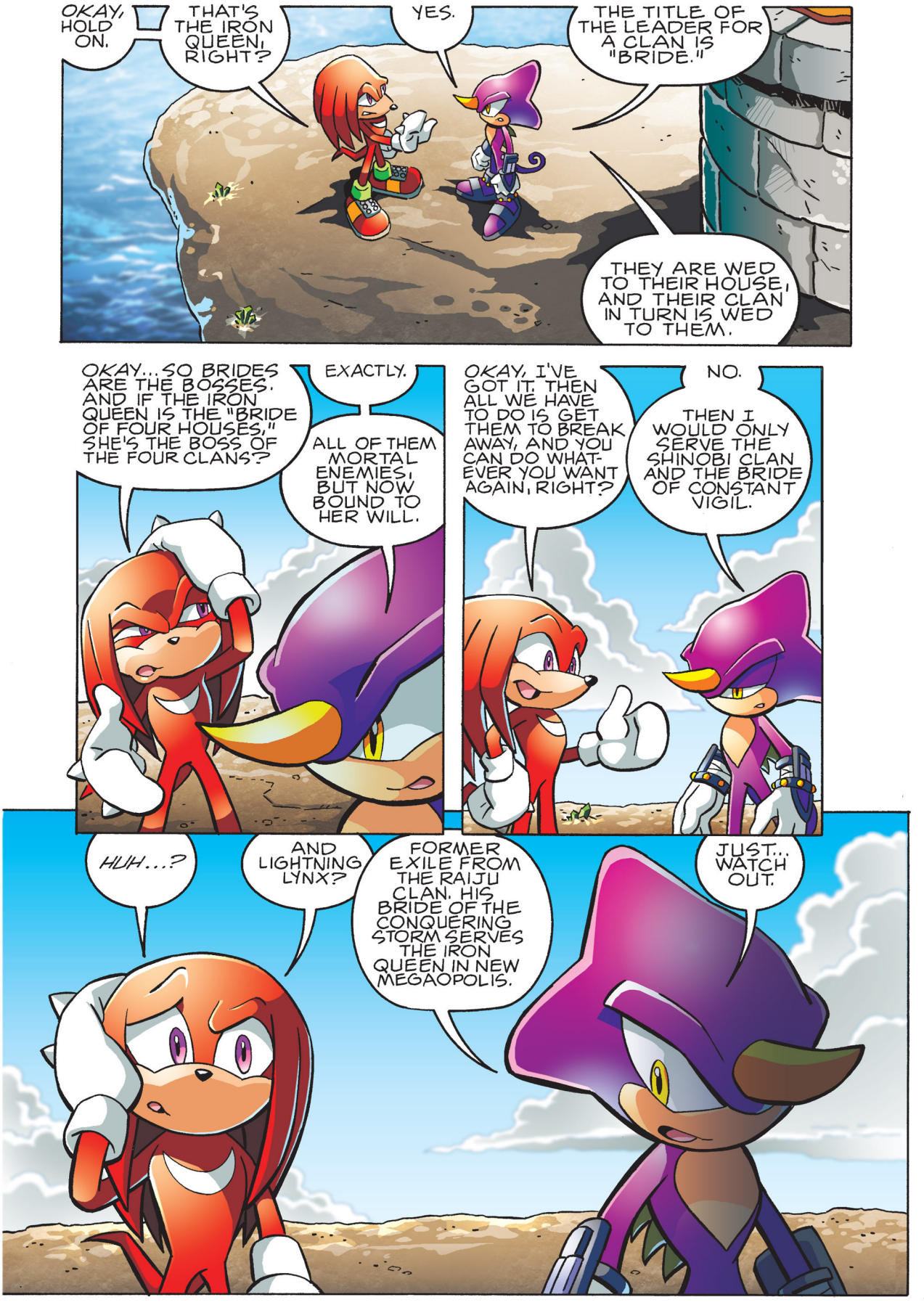
ANGEL ISLAND- SHRINE ISLE...
SO THIS IS IT? YOU REALLY HAVE BETRAYED THE CHAOTIX. YOU REALLY HAVE JOINED THE IRON QUEEN AND ALL THOSE OTHER NINJA ...THINGS...

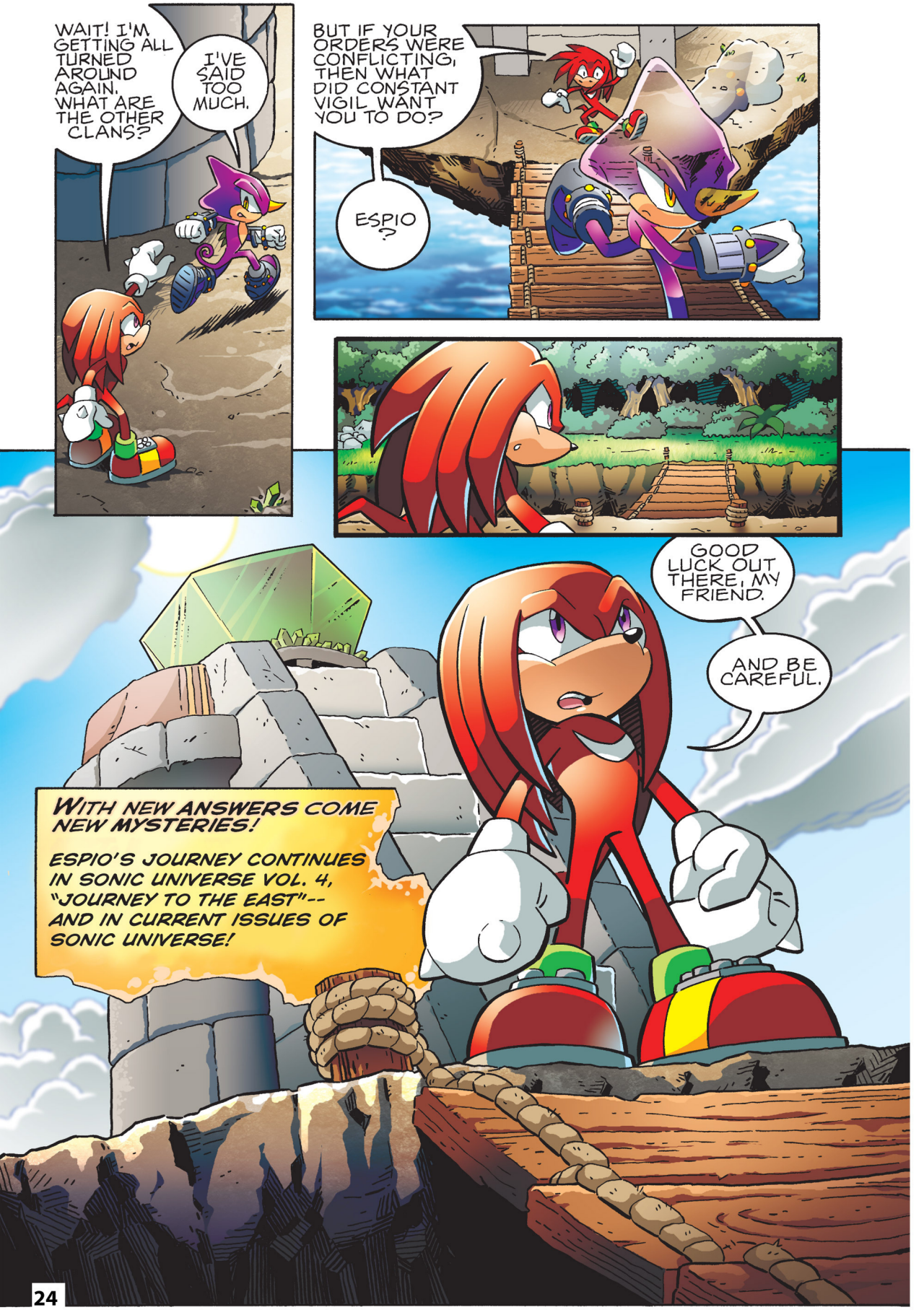
Friend In Deed PART TWO

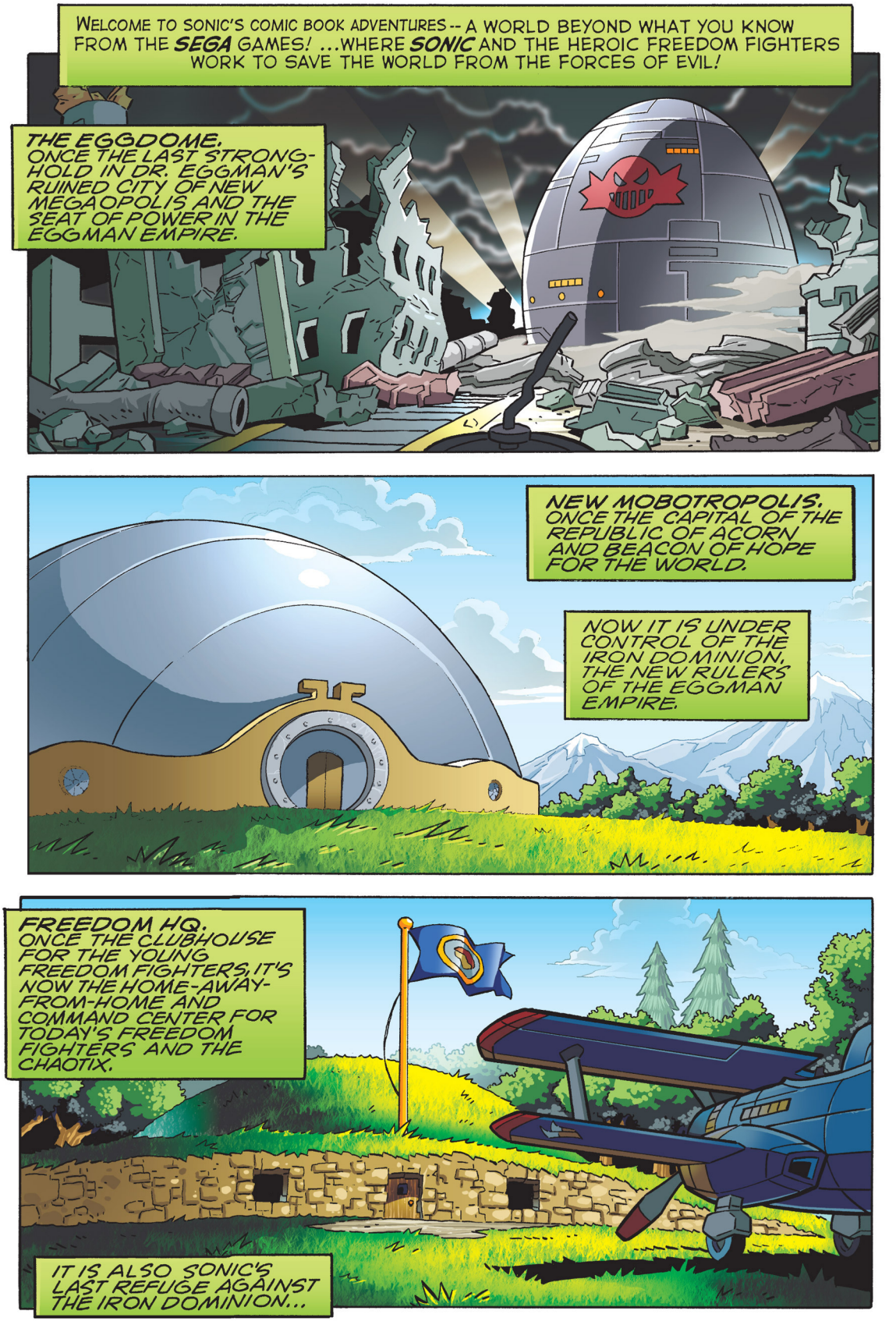
Writer: IAN FLYNN Pencils: JAMAL PEPPERS
Inks: TERRY AUSTIN
Colors: MATT HERMS
Letters: JOHN WORKMAN

YOU'D REALLY STEAL THE MASTER EMERALD. YOU'D REALLY GIVE HER THAT MUCH POWER AND DROP THIS ENTIRE ISLAND INTO THE OCEAN. YOU'D REALLY DO THAT?
...I WOULD HAVE TO DO THIS, RIGHT? I'D HAVE TO DESTROY YOU BEFORE YOU WOULD LET ME TAKE THE MASTER EMERALD?
DO YOU EVEN NEED TO ASK?
OF COURSE YOU WILL.
I'LL GIVE UP EVERYTHING TO STOP YOU.

THEN I HAVE CONFLICTING ORDERS. I AM UNABLE TO ACT FOR NOW.
ORDERS FROM WHO? ESPIO, YOU HAVE TO TELL ME WHAT'S GOING ON.
YOU HAVE TO GIVE ME SOME KIND OF CLUE.
THE ONLY CHAMELEONS I KNOW ABOUT LIVE IN RAINBOW VALLEY.
I CAN'T HELP YOU IF YOU DON'T HELP ME UNDER-STAND.
THERE MIGHT BE A WAY...
...BUT YOU WOULD HAVE TO BREAK THE HOLD OF THE BRIDE OF FOUR HOUSES.


OKAY, HOLD ON.
THAT'S THE IRON QUEEN, RIGHT?
YES.
THE TITLE OF THE LEADER FOR A CLAN IS "BRIDE."
THEY ARE WED TO THEIR HOUSE, AND THEIR CLAN IN TURN IS WED TO THEM.
OKAY... SO BRIDES ARE THE BOSSES. AND IF THE IRON QUEEN IS THE "BRIDE OF FOUR HOUSES," SHE'S THE BOSS OF THE FOUR CLANS?
EXACTLY.
ALL OF THEM MORTAL ENEMIES, BUT NOW BOUND TO HER WILL.
OKAY, I'VE GOT IT. THEN ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS GET THEM TO BREAK AWAY, AND YOU CAN DO WHATEVER YOU WANT AGAIN, RIGHT?
NO.
THEN I WOULD ONLY SERVE THE SHINOBI CLAN AND THE BRIDE OF CONSTANT VIGIL.
HUH...?
AND LIGHTNING LYNX?
FORMER EXILE FROM THE RAIJU CLAN. HIS BRIDE OF THE CONQUERING STORM SERVES THE IRON QUEEN IN NEW MEGAOPOLIS.
JUST.. WATCH OUT.


WAIT! I'M GETTING ALL TURNED AROUND AGAIN. WHAT ARE THE OTHER CLANS?
I'VE SAID TOO MUCH.
BUT IF YOUR ORDERS WERE CONFLICTING, THEN WHAT DID CONSTANT VIGIL WANT YOU TO DO?
ESPIO?
GOOD LUCK OUT THERE, MY FRIEND.
AND BE CAREFUL.
WITH NEW ANSWERS COME NEW MYSTERIES!
ESPIO'S JOURNEY CONTINUES IN SONIC UNIVERSE VOL. 4, "JOURNEY TO THE EAST"-- AND IN CURRENT ISSUES OF SONIC UNIVERSE!


WELCOME TO SONIC'S COMIC BOOK ADVENTURES -- A WORLD BEYOND WHAT YOU KNOW FROM THE SEGA GAMES! ...WHERE SONIC AND THE HEROIC FREEDOM FIGHTERS WORK TO SAVE THE WORLD FROM THE FORCES OF EVIL!
THE EGGDOME. ONCE THE LAST STRONG-HOLD IN DR. EGGMAN'S RUINED CITY OF NEW MEGAOPOLIS AND THE SEAT OF POWER IN THE EGGMAN EMPIRE.
NEW MOBOTROPOLIS. ONCE THE CAPITAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF ACORN AND BEACON OF HOPE FOR THE WORLD.
NOW IT IS UNDER CONTROL OF THE IRON DOMINION, THE NEW RULERS OF THE EGGMAN EMPIRE.
FREEDOM HQ. ONCE THE CLUBHOUSE FOR THE YOUNG FREEDOM FIGHTERS, IT'S NOW THE HOME-AWAY-FROM-HOME AND COMMAND CENTER FOR TODAY'S FREEDOM FIGHTERS AND THE CHAOTIX.
IT IS ALSO SONIC'S LAST REFUGE AGAINST THE IRON DOMINION...

IRON DOMINION

SONIC
THE HEDGEHOG
Hero of Mobius
REGINA FERRUM
The Iron Queen
SALLY ACORN
Princess & Field Leader
IRON NICOLE
"Brainwashed" A.I.
MONKEY KHAN
Cyborg Simian
SNIVELY ROBOTNIK
Eggman's Nephew
THIS IS ALL MY FAULT! I KNEW THE IRON QUEEN COULD CONTROL ELECTRONICS. I KNEW OUR CITY WAS COMPOSED OF NANITES.* I KNOW NICOLE BETTER THAN ANYONE ELSE. I KNEW ALL THIS, AND I STILL DIDN'T PUT ALL THE PIECES...
...TOGETHER.
*MICROSCOPIC MACHINES.
NOW THE IRON QUEEN CONTROLS ONE OF MY BEST FRIENDS, NOT TO MENTION OUR CITY, ALL OF OUR FAMILIES, ROBOTNIK...
I'VE COMPLETELY FAILED US.

Writer: IAN FLYNN • Pencils: TRACY YARDLEY!
Inks: TERRY AUSTIN • Colors: MATT HERMS
Letters: JOHN WORKMAN
Cover: TRACY YARDLEY! & JASON JENSEN
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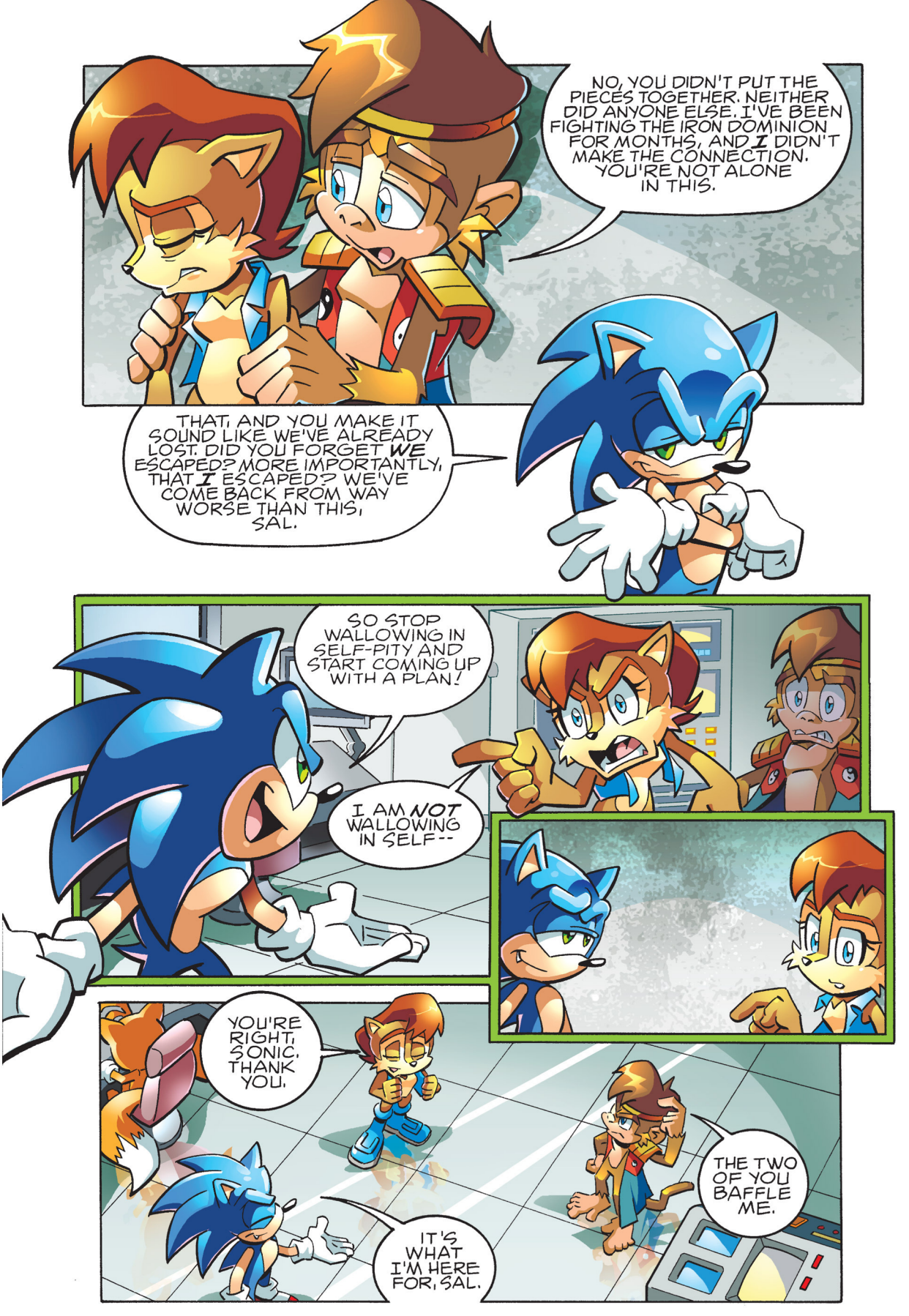
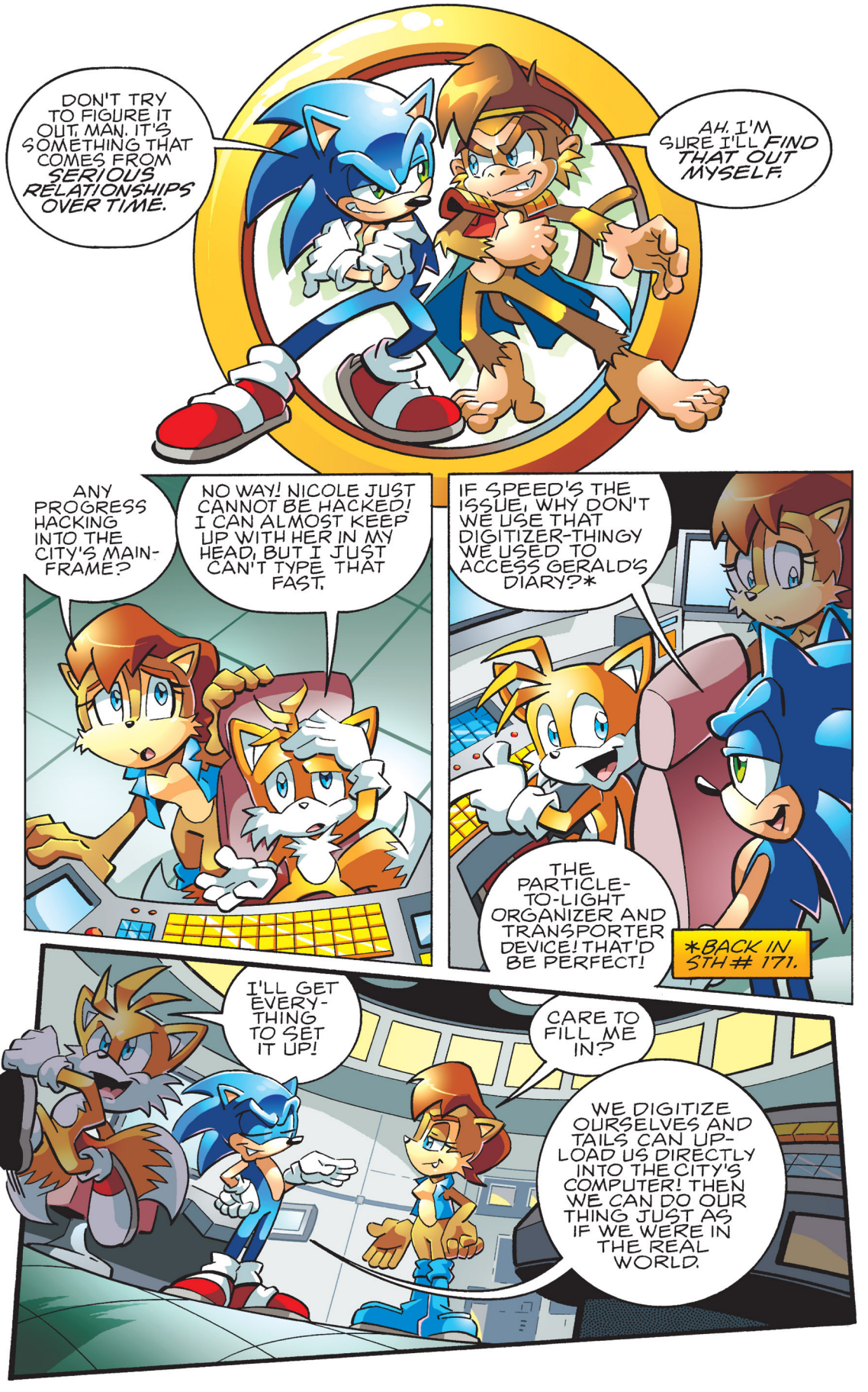
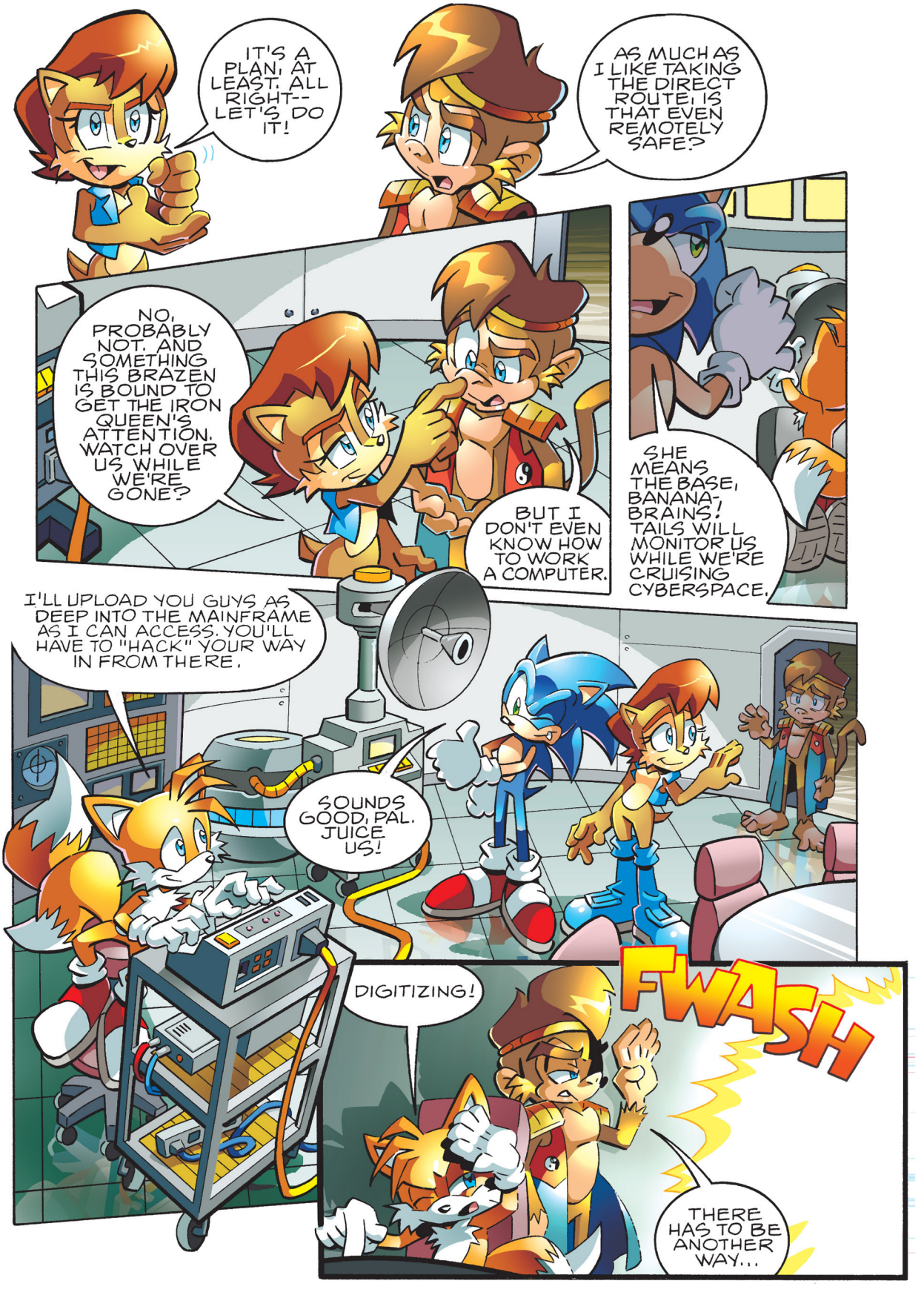
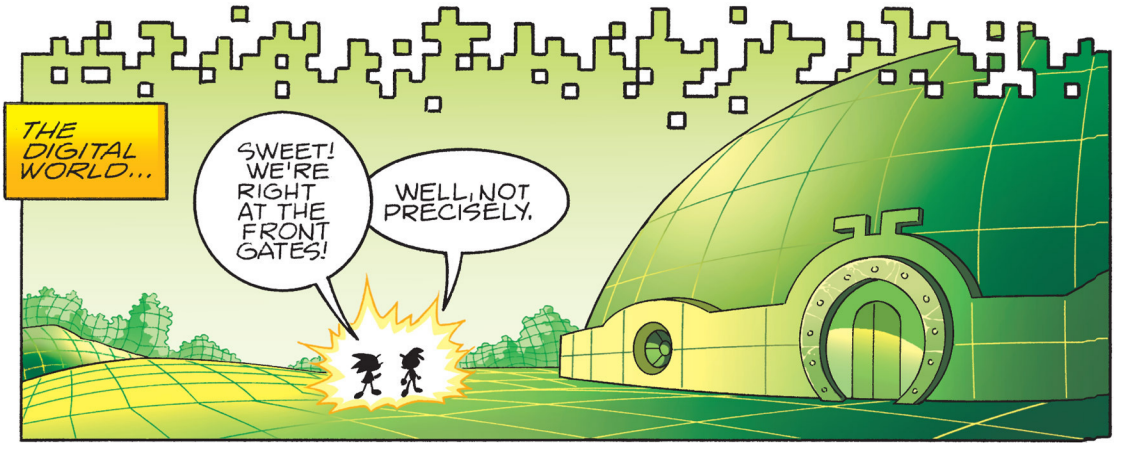
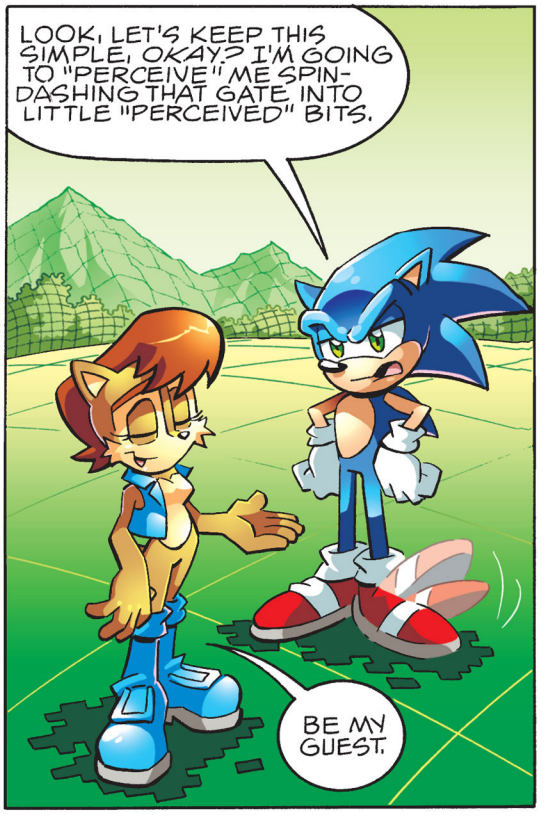

NO, YOU DIDN'T PUT THE PIECES TOGETHER. NEITHER DID ANYONE ELSE. I'VE BEEN FIGHTING THE IRON DOMINION FOR MONTHS, AND I DIDN'T MAKE THE CONNECTION. YOU'RE NOT ALONE IN THIS.
THAT, AND YOU MAKE IT SOUND LIKE WE'VE ALREADY LOST. DID YOU FORGET WE ESCAPED? MORE IMPORTANTLY, THAT I ESCAPED? WE'VE COME BACK FROM WAY WORSE THAN THIS, SAL.
SO STOP WALLOWING IN SELF-PITY AND START COMING UP WITH A PLAN!
I AM NOT WALLOWING IN SELF--
YOU'RE RIGHT, SONIC. THANK YOU.
IT'S WHAT I'M HERE FOR, SAL.
THE TWO OF YOU BAFFLE ME.

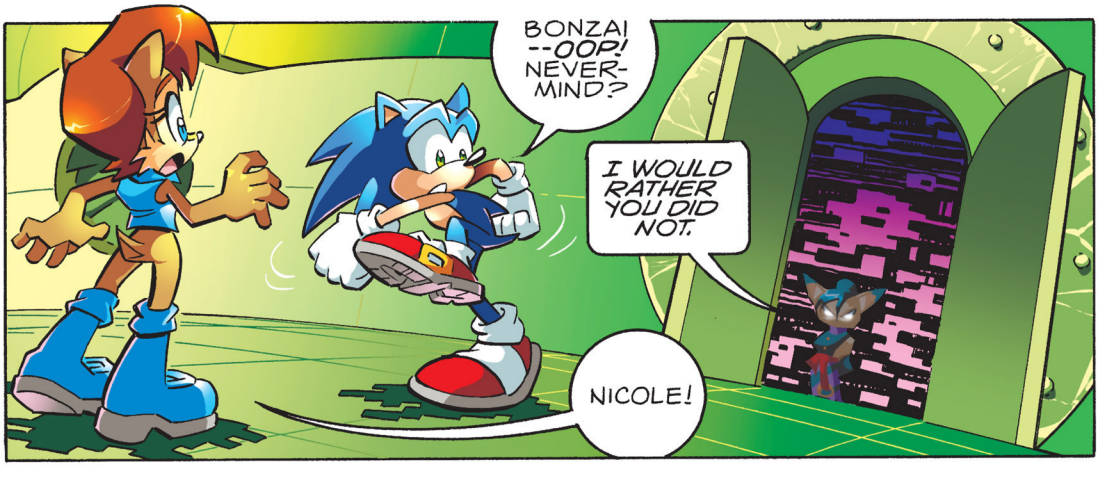

DON'T TRY TO FIGURE IT OUT, MAN. IT'S SOMETHING THAT COMES FROM SERIOUS RELATIONSHIPS OVER TIME.
AH. I'M SURE I'LL FIND THAT OUT MYSELF.
ANY PROGRESS HACKING INTO THE CITY'S MAIN-FRAME?
NO WAY! NICOLE JUST CANNOT BE HACKED! I CAN ALMOST KEEP UP WITH HER IN MY HEAD, BUT I JUST CAN'T TYPE THAT FAST.
IF SPEED'S THE ISSUE, WHY DON'T WE USE THAT DIGITIZER-THINGY WE USED TO ACCESS GERALD'S DIARY?*
THE PARTICLE-TO-LIGHT ORGANIZER AND TRANSPORTER DEVICE! THAT'D BE PERFECT!
*BACK IN STH # 171.
I'LL GET EVERY-THING TO SET IT UP!
CARE TO FILL ME IN?
WE DIGITIZE OURSELVES AND TAILS CAN UP-LOAD US DIRECTLY INTO THE CITY'S COMPUTER! THEN WE CAN DO OUR THING JUST AS IF WE WERE IN THE REAL WORLD.


IT'S A PLAN, AT LEAST. ALL RIGHT-- LET'S DO IT!
AS MUCH AS I LIKE TAKING THE DIRECT ROUTE, IS THAT EVEN REMOTELY SAFE?
NO, PROBABLY NOT. AND SOMETHING THIS BRAZEN IS BOUND TO GET THE IRON QUEEN'S ATTENTION. WATCH OVER US WHILE WE'RE GONE?
BUT I DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW TO WORK A COMPUTER.
SHE MEANS THE BASE, BANANA-BRAINS! TAILS WILL MONITOR US WHILE WE'RE CRUISING CYBERSPACE.
I'LL UPLOAD YOU GUYS AS DEEP INTO THE MAINFRAME AS I CAN ACCESS. YOU'LL HAVE TO "HACK" YOUR WAY IN FROM THERE.
SOUNDS GOOD, PAL. JUICE US!
DIGITIZING!
FWASH
THERE HAS TO BE ANOTHER WAY...


THE DIGITAL WORLD...
SWEET! WE'RE RIGHT AT THE FRONT GATES!
WELL, NOT PRECISELY.

BUT... I SEE GATES.
IF WE'VE BEEN DIGITIZED, THEN THIS IS JUST HOW WE'RE PERCEIVING THE DEFENSIVE MEASURES NICOLE HAS PUT UP AGAINST US.

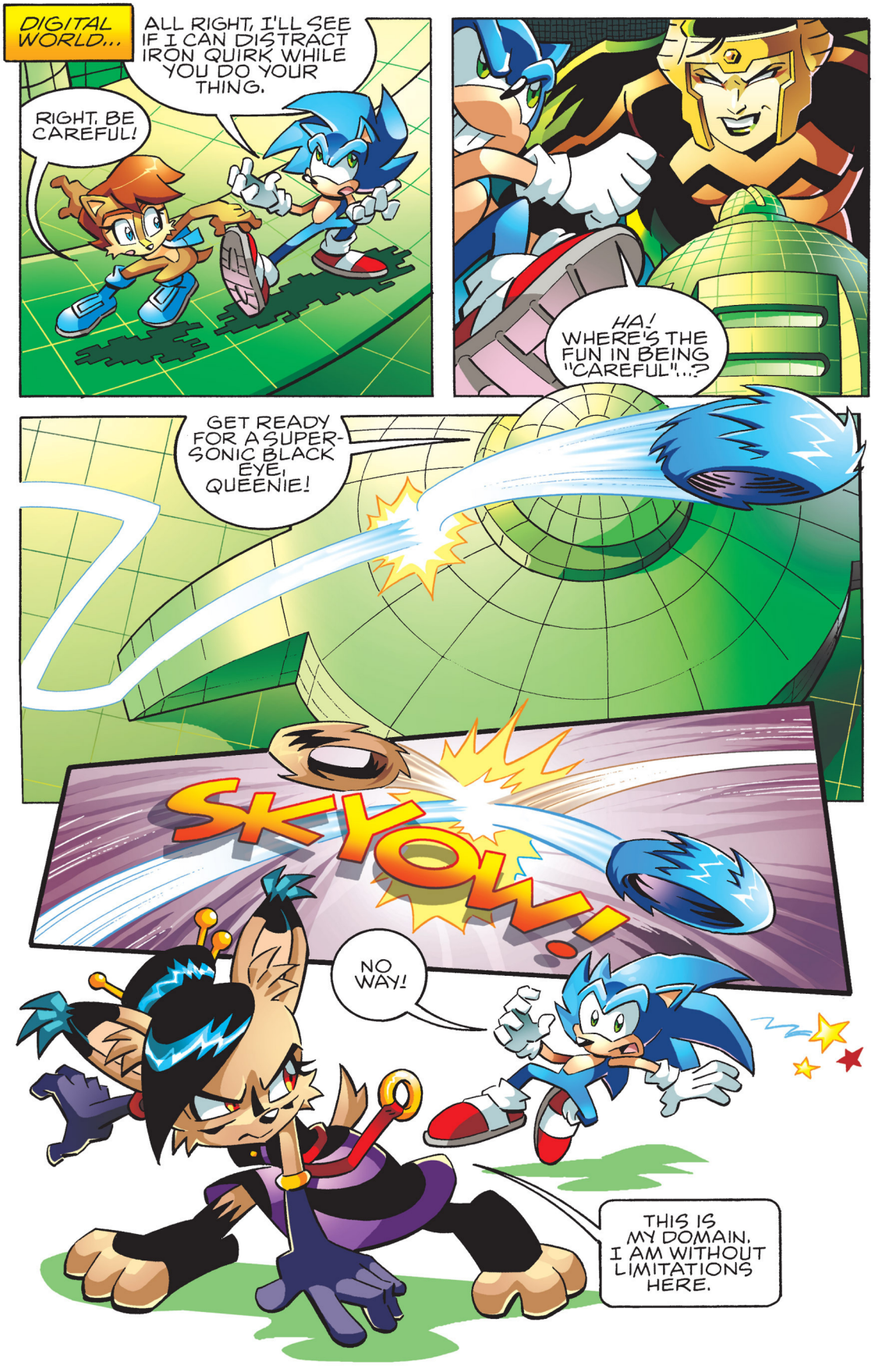

LOOK, LET'S KEEP THIS SIMPLE, OKAY? I'M GOING TO "PERCEIVE" ME SPIN-DASHING THAT GATE INTO LITTLE "PERCEIVED" BITS.
BE MY GUEST.


BONZAI --OOP! NEVER-MIND?
I WOULD RATHER YOU DID NOT.
NICOLE!

MY FILE HAS BEEN RENAMED TO "IRON NICOLE" NOW. A DIGITIZED FRONTAL ASSAULT WAS NOT ANTICIPATED, BUT WAS WITHIN THE RANGE OF PREDICTABILITY.
I'LL TAKE THAT AS "THAT WAS CLEVER."
WHICH IT WAS.
THANK YOU, THANK YOU.
SURRENDER TO THE IRON DOMINION OR FACE DELETION.
NICOLE, STOP! I KNOW YOU'RE STRONGER THAN THIS!
YOUR CODING IS TOO MUCH FOR ROTOR, TAILS, OR ROBOTNIK. EVEN WHEN A.D.A.M. INVADED YOUR SYSTEM, YOU WERE STILL YOU.*
ERROR: FATAL ARGUMENT... ROOT COMMAND CANNOT BE FOUND...SALLY?...
*BACK IN STH #168.
THAT'S IT, NICOLE! FIGHT IT!
YO, SAL...
...WE'VE GOT A PROBLEM.
MREE-HEE-HEE-HEE! I SEEM TO HAVE A COUPLE OF VIRUSES IN MY NEW CITY'S SYSTEM!

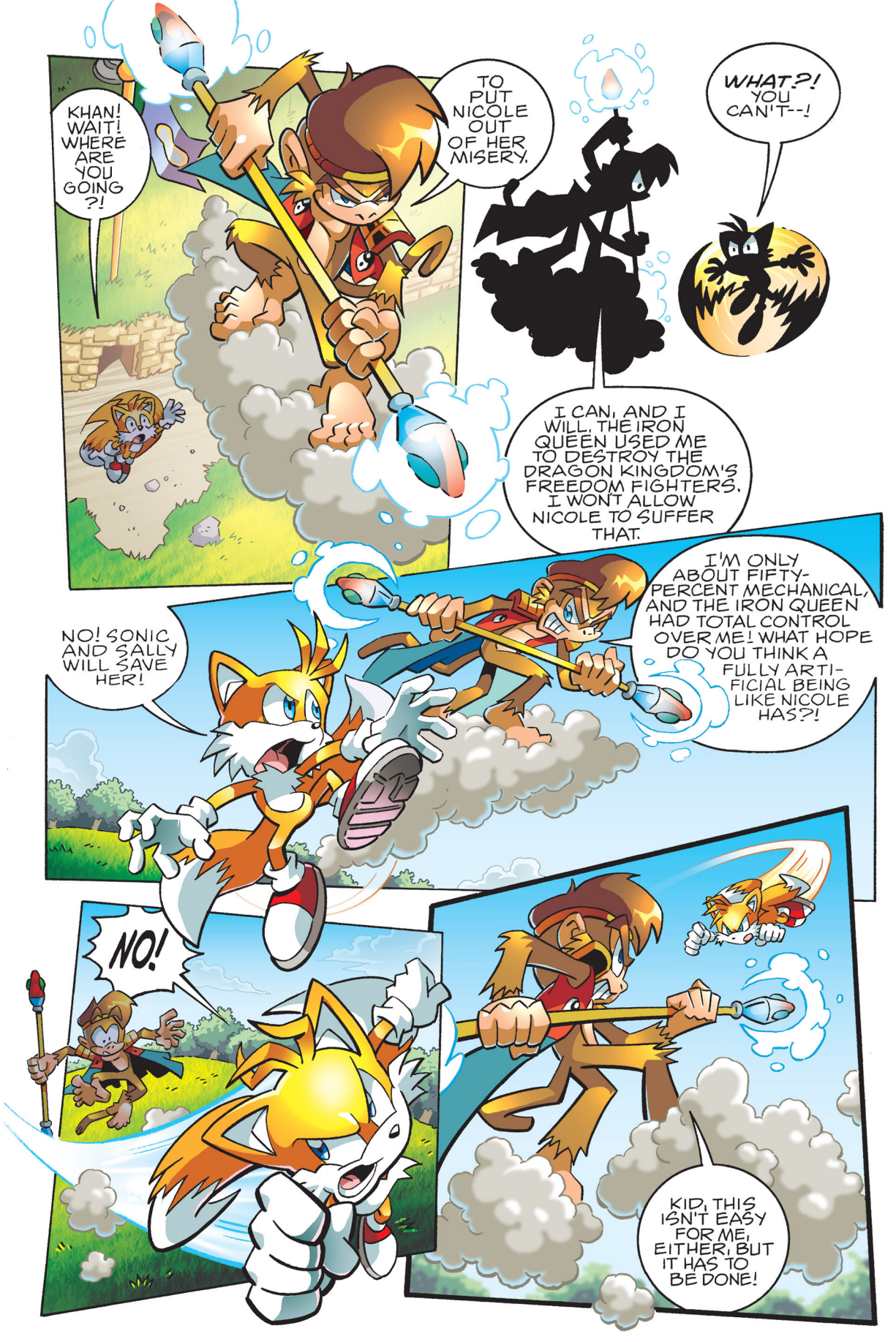
I'LL JUST HAVE TO PURGE YOU!
NICOLE!
ZAKT
WE'LL COME BACK AROUND. WE NEED A PLAN, SAL.
I THINK I CAN BEND THE RULES OF THIS WORLD TO OUR FAVOR AND HELP NICOLE, BUT WE HAVE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THE IRON QUEEN.
YEAH, ABOUT THAT...
I GET THAT SHE'S A TECHNO-WIZARD, OR WHATEVER, BUT I'M PRETTY SURE WE DIDN'T HAVE A DIGITIZER IN THE CITY...
ZAKT
...SO HOW THE HECK IS SHE HERE?!

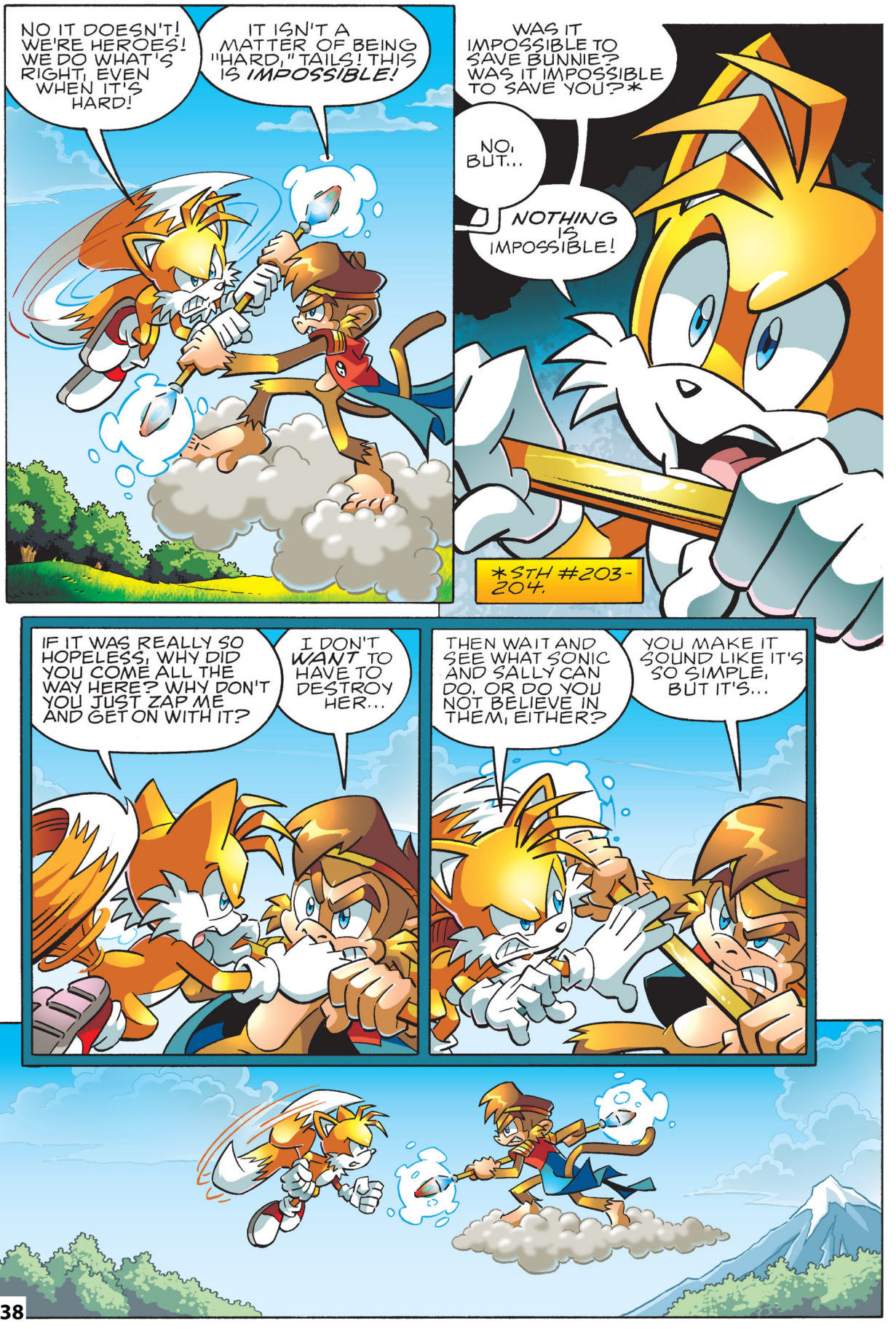
MEANWHILE...
DETENTION CENTER...
SIR CHARLES! IT'S BEEN AGES! TELL ME-- HOW IS THAT "ROBOT-SIZER" OF YOURS COMING ALONG?
GIVE IT A REST, EGGMAN! CRAZY OR NOT, I'VE GOT NO PATIENCE--
--FOR YOUR BABBLING!
HISS!
YEAH, YEAH! I'M MOVING.
"EGGMAN"? THAT USED TO BE SOMETHING SOMEONE TEASED ME ABOUT...BUT I TURNED IT AROUND AND NAMED SOMETHING AFTER IT...
I USED TO GO BY "JULIAN," BUT IT'S BEEN AGES SINCE THEN, HASN'T IT? I GO BY "ROBOTNIK" NOW, AND SOMETIMES..."EGGMAN"...
...OF MY EGGMAN EMPIRE...


DIGITAL WORLD...
ALL RIGHT, I'LL SEE IF I CAN DISTRACT IRON QUIRK WHILE YOU DO YOUR THING.
RIGHT. BE CAREFUL!
HA! WHERE'S THE FUN IN BEING "CAREFUL"...?
GET READY FOR A SUPER-SONIC BLACK EYE, QUEENIE!
SKYOW!
NO WAY!
THIS IS MY DOMAIN. I AM WITHOUT LIMITATIONS HERE.

OH, YEAH? LET'S SEE IF YOU CAN REALLY MATCH MY SONIC SPIN.
SKYOW!
SKYOW!
SKYOW!
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE PART WHERE I HANDLED NICOLE?
DUDE, SAL, I THINK WE'RE IN TROUBLE.

FREEDOM HQ-- THE REAL WORLD...
WHAT WAS THAT?! A TON OF CODING JUST FLASHED ACROSS THE SCREEN!
SONIC IS FIGHTING NICOLE'S DEFENSIVE PROGRAMMING. THIS IS LOOKING BAD...
ABOUT NICOLE... DOES SHE PHYSICALLY EXIST IN THE CITY?
SORT OF. THE BULK OF HER CODE WAS UPLOADED TO THE CITY'S MAINFRAME SO SHE COULD RUN THE NANITES BETTER.
AND WHERE IS THAT MAINFRAME?
IT'S SET BELOW CASTLE ACORN, BUT THERE'S AN ACCESS TUNNEL THAT RUNS FROM THE SCIENCE CENTER. NOT LIKE IT DOES US ANY GOOD RIGHT NOW.
NO, NO GOOD CAN BE DONE AT THIS POINT.
...WAIT A MINUTE...


KHAN! WAIT! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?!
TO PUT NICOLE OUT OF HER MISERY.
WHAT?! YOU CAN'T--!
I CAN, AND I WILL. THE IRON QUEEN USED ME TO DESTROY THE DRAGON KINGDOM'S FREEDOM FIGHTERS. I WON'T ALLOW NICOLE TO SUFFER THAT.
I'M ONLY ABOUT FIFTY-PERCENT MECHANICAL, AND THE IRON QUEEN HAD TOTAL CONTROL OVER ME! WHAT HOPE DO YOU THINK A FULLY ARTIFICIAL BEING LIKE NICOLE HAS?!
NO! SONIC AND SALLY WILL SAVE HER!
NO!
KID, THIS ISN'T EASY FOR ME, EITHER, BUT IT HAS TO BE DONE!


NO IT DOESN'T! WE'RE HEROES! WE DO WHAT'S RIGHT, EVEN WHEN IT'S HARD!
IT ISN'T A MATTER OF BEING "HARD," TAILS! THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE!
WAS IT IMPOSSIBLE TO SAVE BUNNIE? WAS IT IMPOSSIBLE TO SAVE YOU?*
NO, BUT...
NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE!
*STH #203-204.
IF IT WAS REALLY SO HOPELESS, WHY DID YOU COME ALL THE WAY HERE? WHY DON'T YOU JUST ZAP ME AND GET ON WITH IT?
I DON'T WANT TO HAVE TO DESTROY HER...
THEN WAIT AND SEE WHAT SONIC AND SALLY CAN DO, OR DO YOU NOT BELIEVE IN THEM, EITHER?
YOU MAKE IT SOUND LIKE IT'S SO SIMPLE, BUT IT'S...

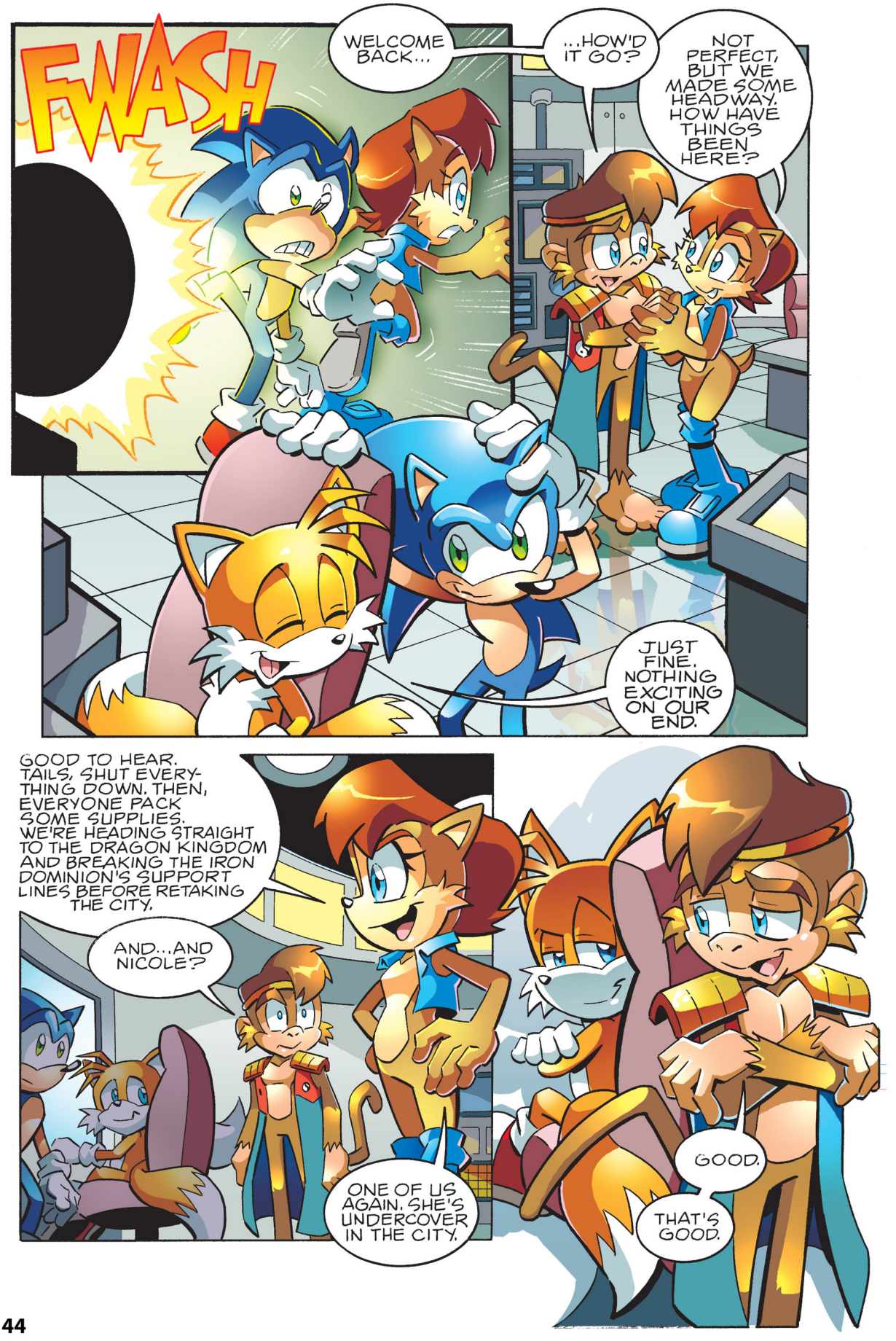
THE DIGITAL WORLD...
ALL RIGHT...IF I APPLY ROTOR'S FIREWALL CODING AS IF I COULD "CAST" IT LIKE MAGIC...
SKKOW
FWMP
YES! NOW WE CAN MAKE SOME PROGRESS!
KRA-KOW
YIPE!
NAUGHTY LITTLE VIRUS, TRYING TO MAKE YOUR OWN FIRE-WALLS IN MY SYSTEM!

SONIC! GO ON THE OFFENSIVE! I CAN HOLD NICOLE NOW!
GOTCHA!
WHAT ARE YOU--?
GIVE ME A HALF OF A SECOND, AND I'LL SHOW YOU.
NOW, LIKE I SAID BEFORE...
...HERE'S HEDGEHOG IN YOUR EYE!
FWMP
GYAAAH!
EEEYARGH! I HATE THAT HEDGEHOG!

...NICOLE?
...WARNING, CONNECTION TO HOST LOST ...CONNECTION ...LOST...
SALLY?
NICOLE!
IT'S GOOD TO HAVE YOU BACK.
I AM CURRENTLY BUILDING GREATER DEFENSES IN MY CODING TO BLOCK OUT THE IRON QUEEN'S MAGIC...
NICOLE?
I HAVE ALREADY DOWNLOADED LOGS OF MY PREVIOUS ACTIONS. I AM...FURIOUS? MORTIFIED? EMOTIONS ARE DIFFICULT TO LABEL WHEN YOU ACTUALLY EXPERIENCE THEM.
IT'S ALL RIGHT. WE'RE IN CONTROL OF THE SITUATION NOW.
NO. I'M AFRAID WE ARE NOT.

I AM SAFE FROM THE IRON QUEEN NOW, BUT I AM...WEAK. MOST OF THE CITIZENS ARE IMPRISONED, THE IRON DOMINION IS WELL-STATIONED THROUGHOUT THE CITY, AND THEY STILL HAVE THE SUPPORT OF MORE FORCES IN THE DRAGON KINGDOM.
YOU'RE RIGHT. EVEN IF WE PUSHED THEM OUT TODAY, THEY COULD COME BACK WITH EVEN GREATER NUMBERS...AND ALL THE WISER.
THAT'S MY ANALYSIS OF THE SITUATION, YES.
THEN WE'LL PULL THE SAME TRICK ON THEM. WE HAVE ACCESS TO THE CITY THEY DON'T KNOW ABOUT NOW, AND WE CAN WEAKEN THEM FROM WITHIN.
...I SEE WHERE THIS IS GOING.
I'M SORRY TO ASK SO MUCH OF YOU.
I WILL ACT AS "IRON NICOLE" AND KEEP THINGS MANAGEABLE HERE...
...WHILE WE BREAK THE IRON DOMINION'S POWERBASE ABROAD.
BE SAFE. WE'LL BE BACK AS FAST AS WE CAN.
GOOD LUCK, SALLY.

UNAUTHORIZED ACCESS DENIED. PURGING.
WINK-
TAILS! GET US OUT OF HERE! TAILS?!
WHUD
TAILS!!! CAN HE EVEN HEAR US IN THIS WORLD?
WHOA ...THE WHOLE CITY IS DOING A SPIN-DASH AROUND ME...
IRON NICOLE ?
FWASH
THE INVADERS HAVE BEEN PURGED FROM THE SYSTEM, MY QUEEN. NEW MOBOTROPOLIS REMAINS FULLY YOURS.


FWASH
WELCOME BACK...
...HOW'D IT GO?
NOT PERFECT, BUT WE MADE SOME HEADWAY. HOW HAVE THINGS BEEN HERE?
JUST FINE. NOTHING EXCITING ON OUR END.
GOOD TO HEAR. TAILS, SHUT EVERYTHING DOWN. THEN, EVERYONE PACK SOME SUPPLIES. WE'RE HEADING STRAIGHT TO THE DRAGON KINGDOM AND BREAKING THE IRON DOMINION'S SUPPORT LINES BEFORE RETAKING THE CITY.
AND...AND NICOLE?
ONE OF US AGAIN. SHE'S UNDERCOVER IN THE CITY.
GOOD.
THAT'S GOOD.

AND SO...
NEXT STOP--THE DRAGON KINGDOM!
WE HAVE TO SUCCEED IN OUR MISSION...
...OTHERWISE THE IRON DOMINION WILL HAVE WON.
FOUR HEROES TRAVEL TO A DISTANT LAND TO ATTEMPT THE IMPOSSIBLE! FOLLOW SONIC'S ADVENTURE IN SONIC UNIVERSE VOL.4, "JOURNEY TO THE EAST"! AVAILABLE NOW WHEREVER FINE BOOKS ARE SOLD!

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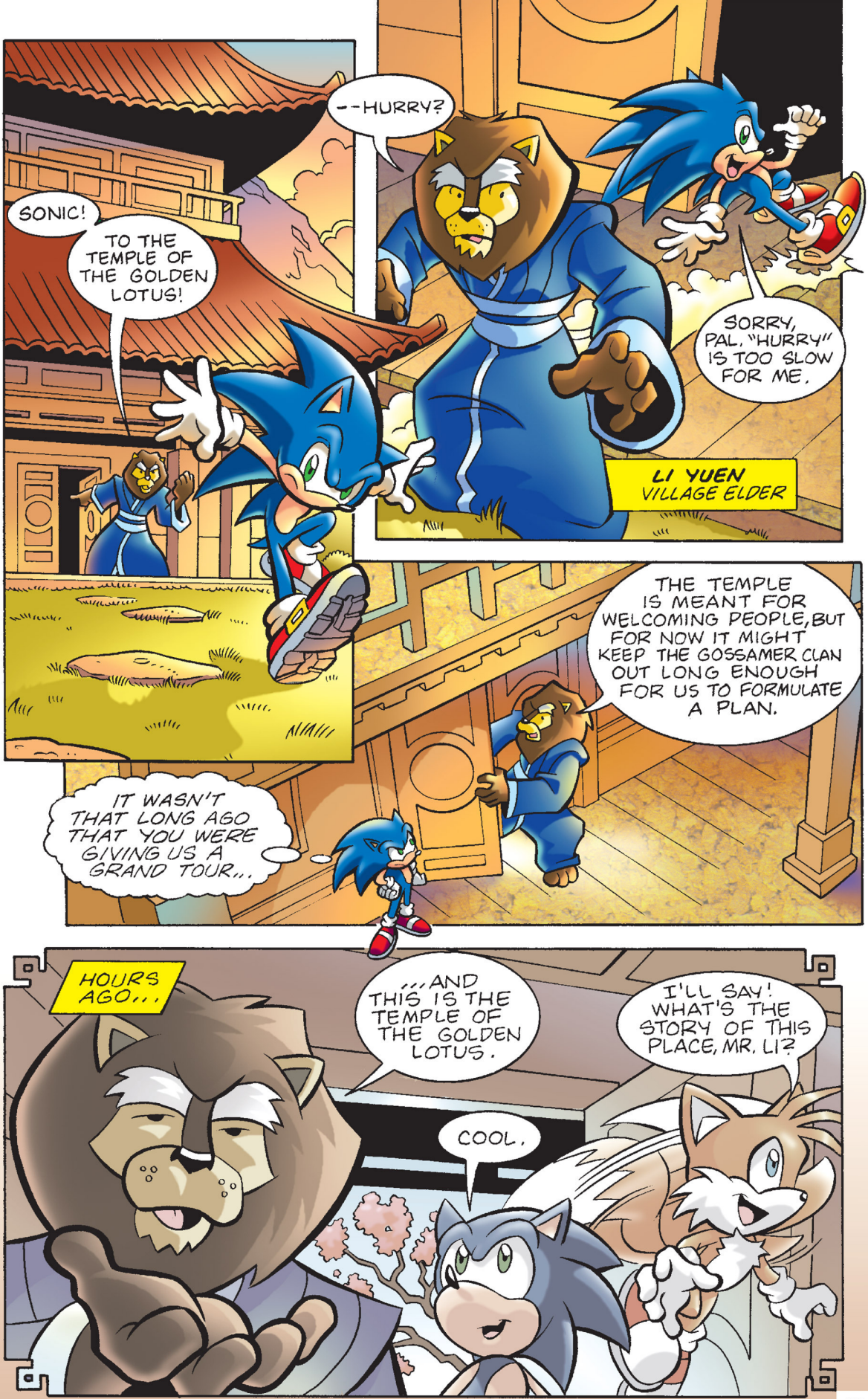
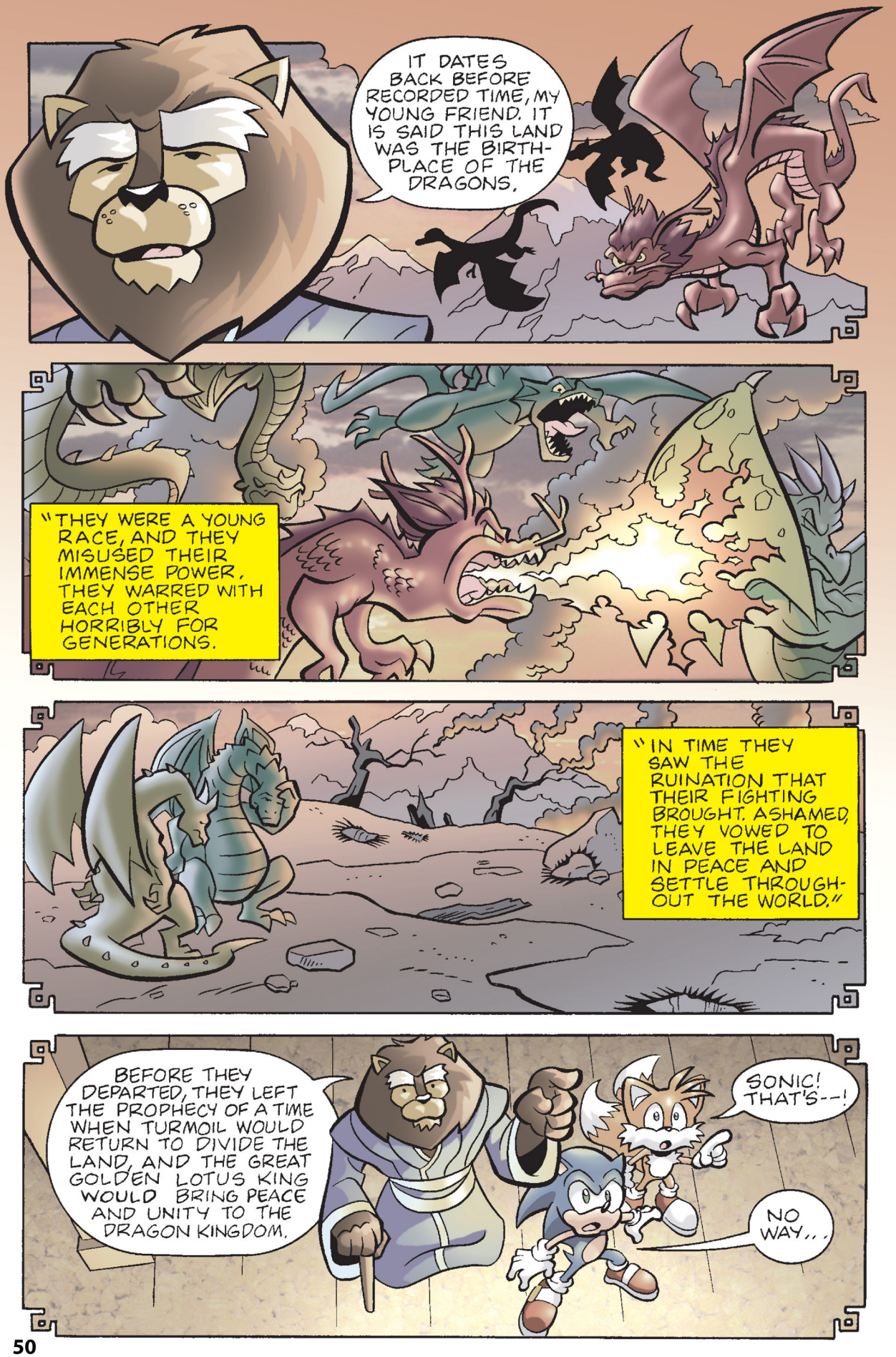
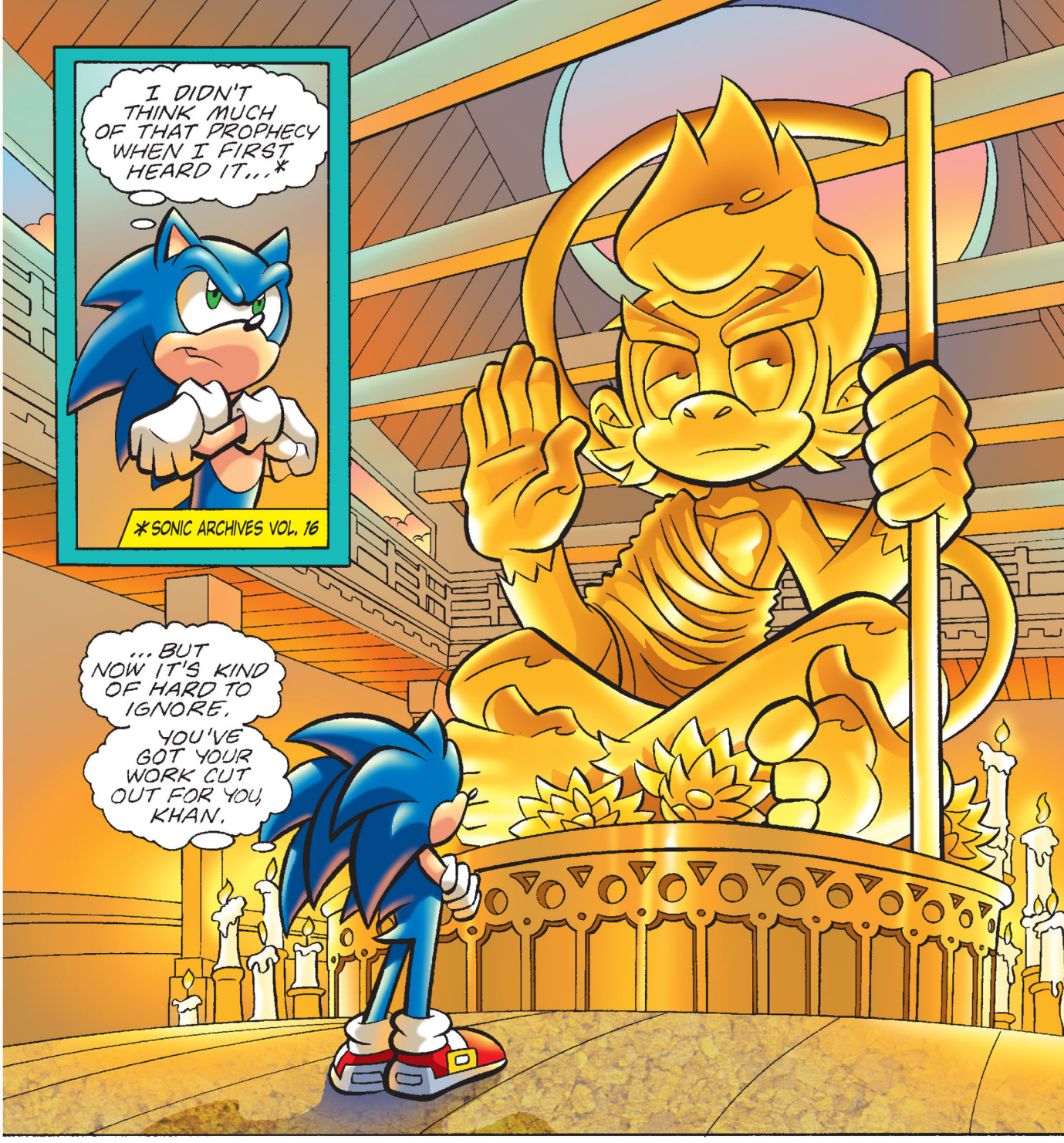
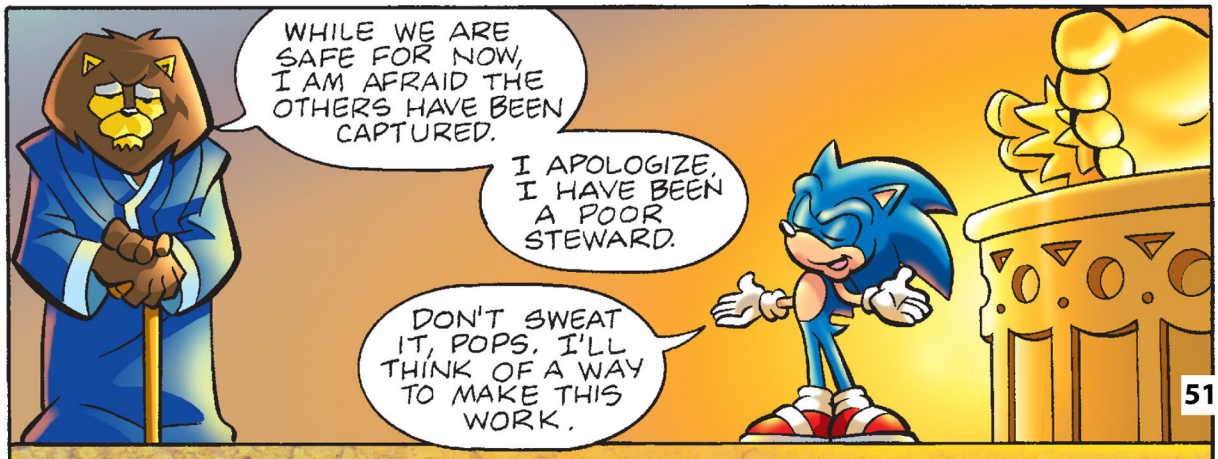
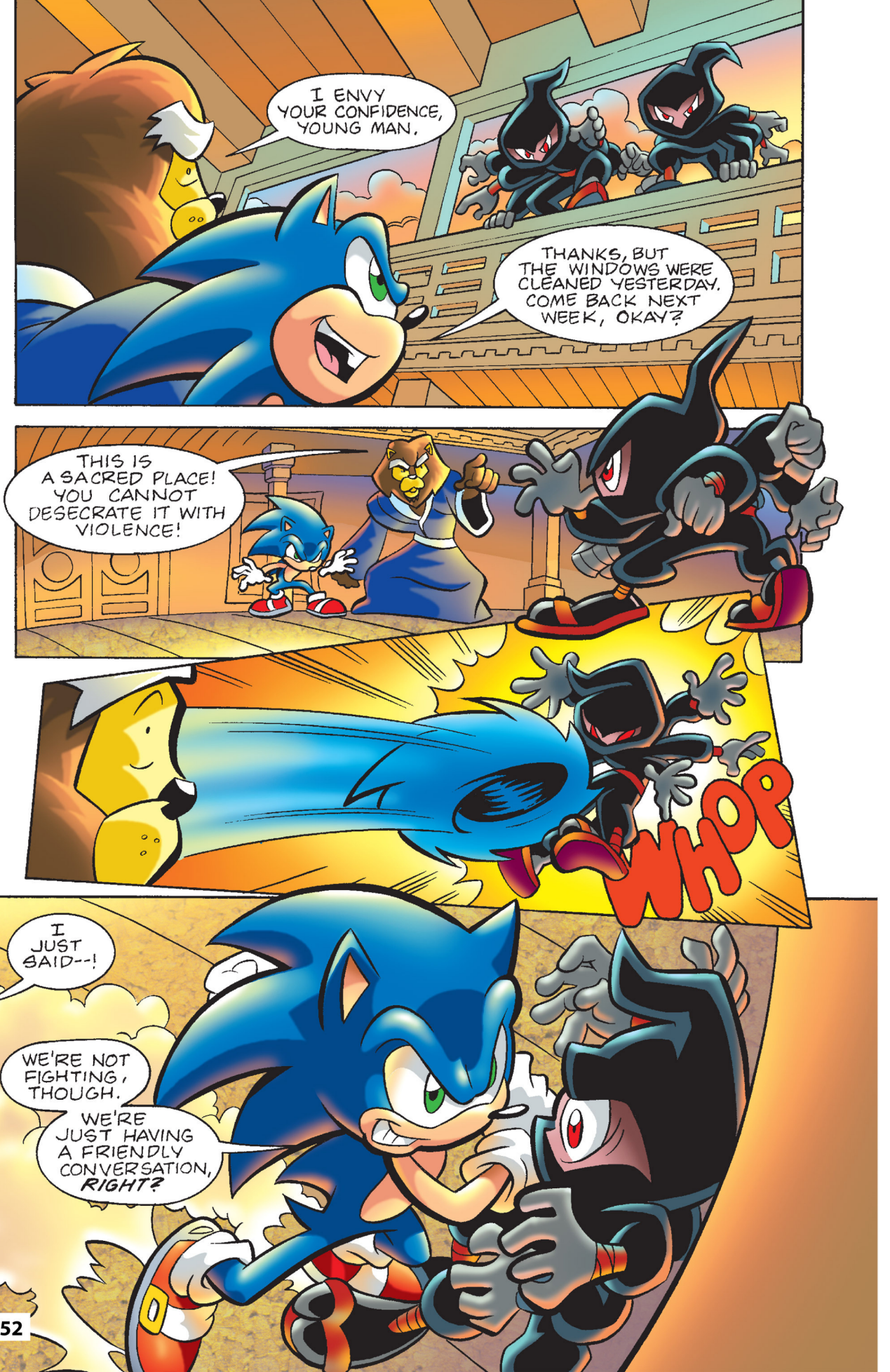
YOU GUYS REALLY KNOW HOW TO MAKE A TOURIST FEEL WELCOME!
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG HERO OF MOBIUS
SPIDER NINJA OF THE GOSSAMER CLAN
Part One:
Endless Reach of FATE
WRITER: IAN FLYNN PENCILS: TRACY YARDLEY INKS: JIM AMASH
COLORS: JASON JENSEN LETTERS: TERESA DAVIDSON
ASSISTANT EDITOR: PAUL KAMINSKI
EDITOR/MANAGING EDITOR: MIKE PELLERITO
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: VICTOR GORELICK
SPECIAL THANKS TO CINDY CHAU & JERRY CHU AT SEGA LICENSING

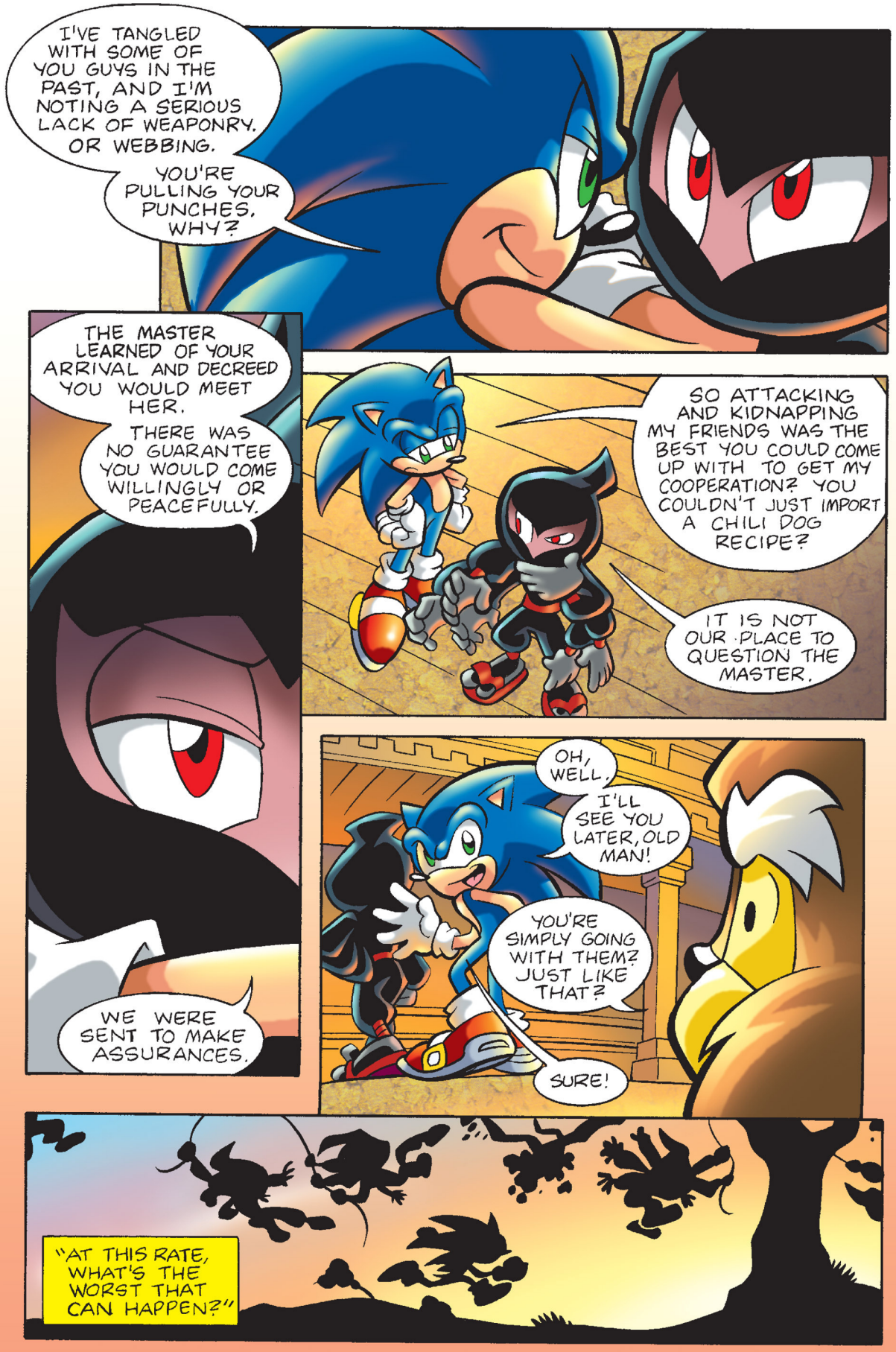

--HURRY?
SONIC!
TO THE TEMPLE OF THE GOLDEN LOTUS!
SORRY, PAL, "HURRY" IS TOO SLOW FOR ME.
LI YUEN
VILLAGE ELDER
THE TEMPLE IS MEANT FOR WELCOMING PEOPLE, BUT FOR NOW IT MIGHT KEEP THE GOSSAMER CLAN OUT LONG ENOUGH FOR US TO FORMULATE A PLAN.
IT WASN'T THAT LONG AGO THAT YOU WERE GIVING US A GRAND TOUR...
HOURS AGO...
...AND THIS IS THE TEMPLE OF THE GOLDEN LOTUS.
I'LL SAY! WHAT'S THE STORY OF THIS PLACE, MR. LI?
COOL.

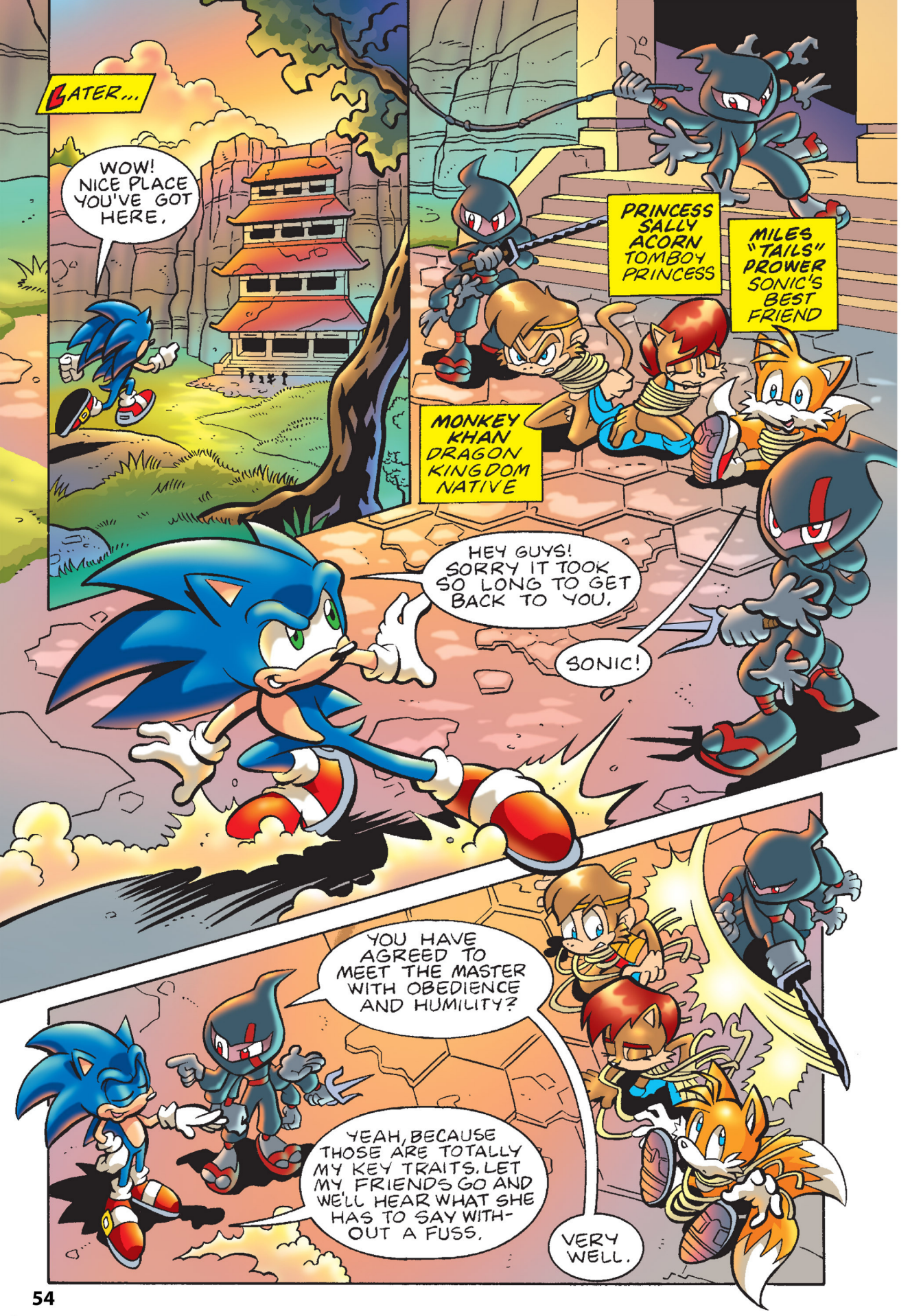

IT DATES BACK BEFORE RECORDED TIME, MY YOUNG FRIEND. IT IS SAID THIS LAND WAS THE BIRTH-PLACE OF THE DRAGONS.
"THEY WERE A YOUNG RACE, AND THEY MISUSED THEIR IMMENSE POWER. THEY WARRED WITH EACH OTHER HORRIBLY FOR GENERATIONS.
"IN TIME THEY SAW THE RUINATION THAT THEIR FIGHTING BROUGHT. ASHAMED, THEY VOWED TO LEAVE THE LAND IN PEACE AND SETTLE THROUGH-OUT THE WORLD."
BEFORE THEY DEPARTED, THEY LEFT THE PROPHECY OF A TIME WHEN TURMOIL WOULD RETURN TO DIVIDE THE LAND, AND THE GREAT GOLDEN LOTUS KING WOULD BRING PEACE AND UNITY TO THE DRAGON KINGDOM.
SONIC! THAT'S--!
NO WAY...

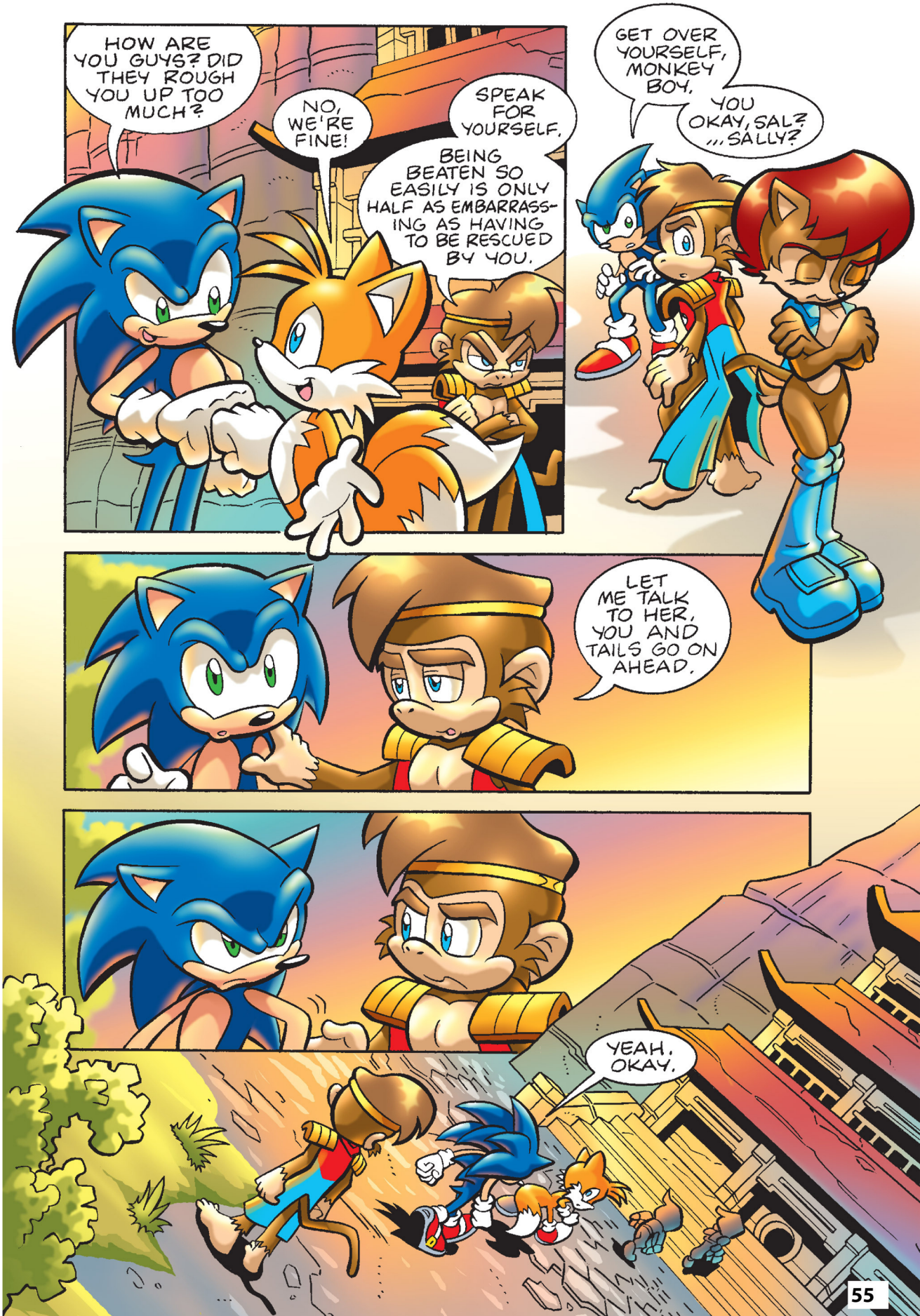

I DIDN'T THINK MUCH OF THAT PROPHECY WHEN I FIRST HEARD IT...*
*SONIC ARCHIVES VOL. 16
...BUT NOW IT'S KIND OF HARD TO IGNORE.
YOU'VE GOT YOUR WORK CUT OUT FOR YOU, KHAN.

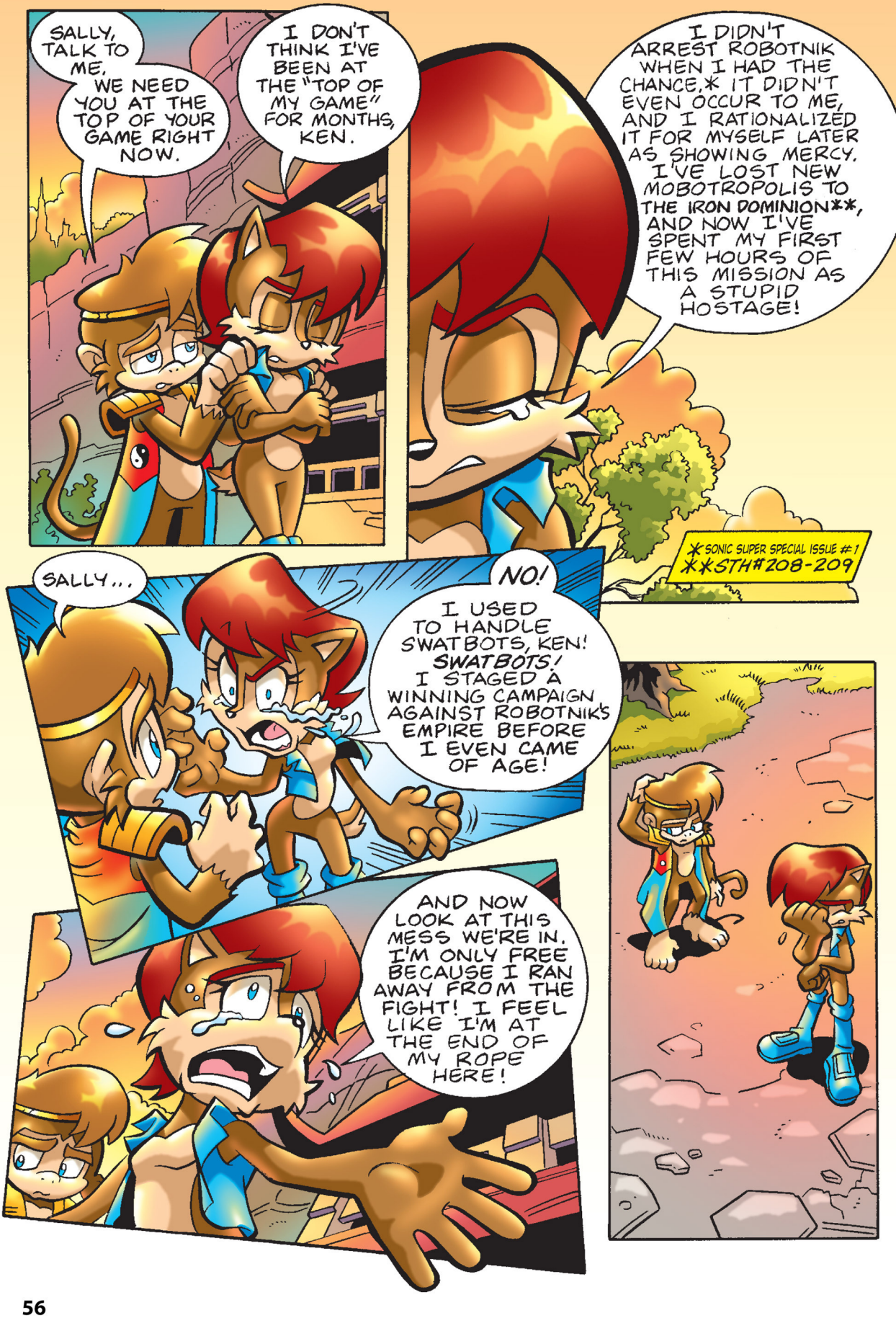

WHILE WE ARE SAFE FOR NOW, I AM AFRAID THE OTHERS HAVE BEEN CAPTURED.
I APOLOGIZE. I HAVE BEEN A POOR STEWARD.
DON'T SWEAT IT, POPS. I'LL THINK OF A WAY TO MAKE THIS WORK.

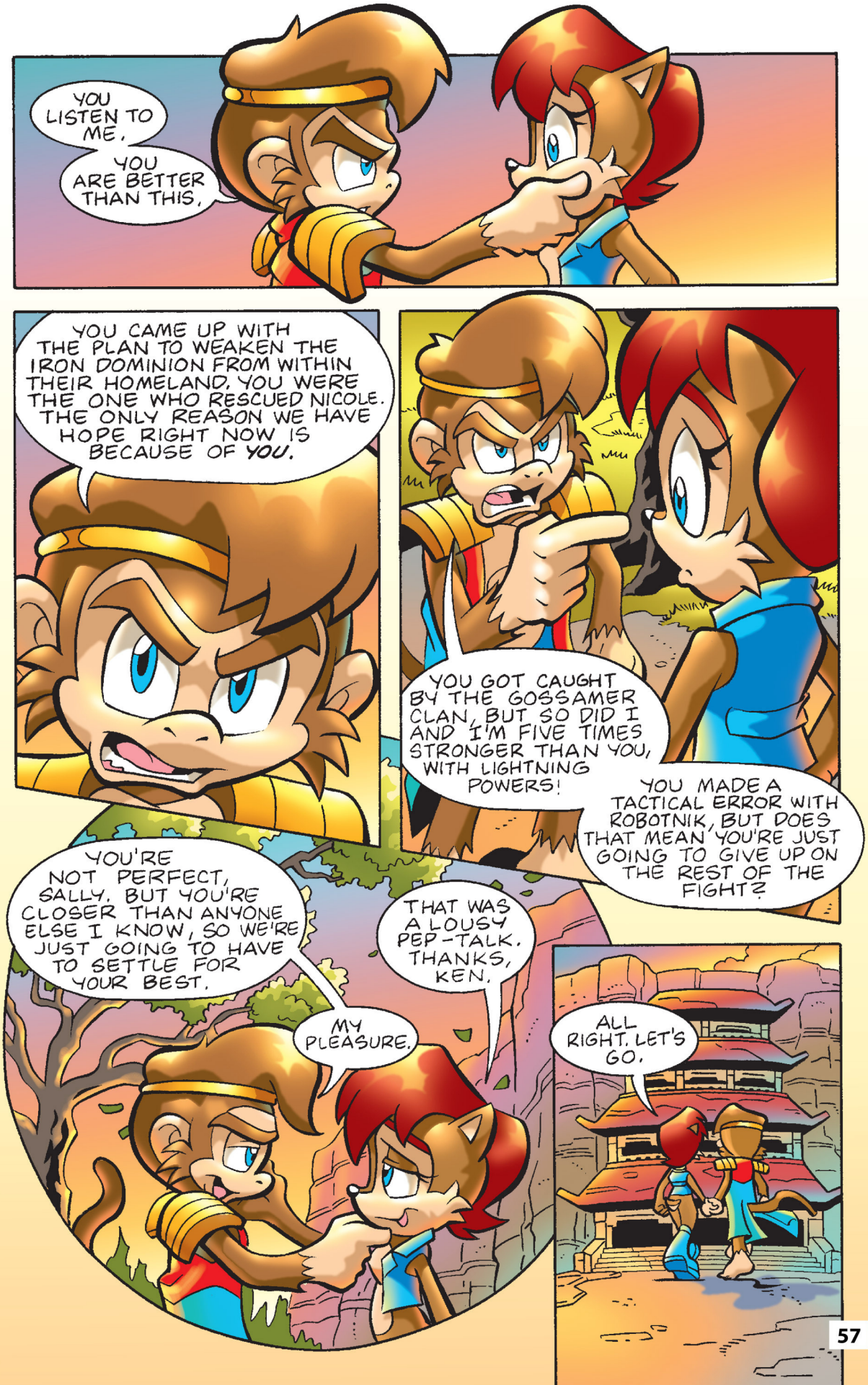

I ENVY YOUR CONFIDENCE, YOUNG MAN.
THANKS, BUT THE WINDOWS WERE CLEANED YESTERDAY. COME BACK NEXT WEEK, OKAY?
THIS IS A SACRED PLACE! YOU CANNOT DESECRATE IT WITH VIOLENCE!
WHOP
I JUST SAID--!
WE'RE NOT FIGHTING, THOUGH.
WE'RE JUST HAVING A FRIENDLY CONVERSATION, RIGHT?


I'VE TANGLED WITH SOME OF YOU GUYS IN THE PAST, AND I'M NOTING A SERIOUS LACK OF WEAPONRY. OR WEBBING.
YOU'RE PULLING YOUR PUNCHES. WHY?
THE MASTER LEARNED OF YOUR ARRIVAL AND DECREED YOU WOULD MEET HER.
THERE WAS NO GUARANTEE YOU WOULD COME WILLINGLY OR PEACEFULLY.
WE WERE SENT TO MAKE ASSURANCES.
SO ATTACKING AND KIDNAPPING MY FRIENDS WAS THE BEST YOU COULD COME UP WITH TO GET MY COOPERATION? YOU COULDN'T JUST IMPORT A CHILI DOG RECIPE?
IT IS NOT OUR PLACE TO QUESTION THE MASTER.
OH, WELL.
I'LL SEE YOU LATER, OLD MAN!
YOU'RE SIMPLY GOING WITH THEM? JUST LIKE THAT?
SURE!
"AT THIS RATE, WHAT'S THE WORST THAT CAN HAPPEN?"


LATER...
WOW! NICE PLACE YOU'VE GOT HERE.
PRINCESS SALLY ACORN TOMBOY PRINCESS
MILES "TAILS" PROWER SONIC'S BEST FRIEND
MONKEY KHAN DRAGON KINGDOM NATIVE
HEY GUYS! SORRY IT TOOK SO LONG TO GET BACK TO YOU.
SONIC!
YOU HAVE AGREED TO MEET THE MASTER WITH OBEDIENCE AND HUMILITY?
YEAH, BECAUSE THOSE ARE TOTALLY MY KEY TRAITS. LET MY FRIENDS GO AND WE'LL HEAR WHAT SHE HAS TO SAY WITHOUT A FUSS.
VERY WELL.


HOW ARE YOU GUYS? DID THEY ROUGH YOU UP TOO MUCH?
NO, WE'RE FINE!
SPEAK FOR YOURSELF.
BEING BEATEN SO EASILY IS ONLY HALF AS EMBARRASSING AS HAVING TO BE RESCUED BY YOU.
GET OVER YOURSELF, MONKEY BOY.
YOU OKAY, SAL? ...SALLY?
LET ME TALK TO HER, YOU AND TAILS GO ON AHEAD.
YEAH. OKAY.


SALLY, TALK TO ME. WE NEED YOU AT THE TOP OF YOUR GAME RIGHT NOW.
I DON'T THINK I'VE BEEN AT THE "TOP OF MY GAME" FOR MONTHS, KEN.
I DIDN'T ARREST ROBOTNIK WHEN I HAD THE CHANCE,* IT DIDN'T EVEN OCCUR TO ME, AND I RATIONALIZED IT FOR MYSELF LATER AS SHOWING MERCY. I'VE LOST NEW MOBOTROPOLIS TO THE IRON DOMINION**, AND NOW I'VE SPENT MY FIRST FEW HOURS OF THIS MISSION AS A STUPID HOSTAGE!
*SONIC SUPER SPECIAL ISSUE #1
**STH#208-209
SALLY...
NO! I USED TO HANDLE SWATBOTS, KEN! SWATBOTS! I STAGED A WINNING CAMPAIGN AGAINST ROBOTNIK'S EMPIRE BEFORE I EVEN CAME OF AGE!
AND NOW LOOK AT THIS MESS WE'RE IN. I'M ONLY FREE BECAUSE I RAN AWAY FROM THE FIGHT! I FEEL LIKE I'M AT THE END OF MY ROPE HERE!


YOU LISTEN TO ME.
YOU ARE BETTER THAN THIS.
YOU CAME UP WITH THE PLAN TO WEAKEN THE IRON DOMINION FROM WITHIN THEIR HOMELAND. YOU WERE THE ONE WHO RESCUED NICOLE. THE ONLY REASON WE HAVE HOPE RIGHT NOW IS BECAUSE OF YOU.
YOU GOT CAUGHT BY THE GOSSAMER CLAN, BUT SO DID I AND I'M FIVE TIMES STRONGER THAN YOU, WITH LIGHTNING POWERS!
YOU MADE A TACTICAL ERROR WITH ROBOTNIK, BUT DOES THAT MEAN YOU'RE JUST GOING TO GIVE UP ON THE REST OF THE FIGHT?
YOU'RE NOT PERFECT, SALLY. BUT YOU'RE CLOSER THAN ANYONE ELSE I KNOW, SO WE'RE JUST GOING TO HAVE TO SETTLE FOR YOUR BEST.
MY PLEASURE.
THAT WAS A LOUSY PEP-TALK. THANKS, KEN.
ALL RIGHT. LET'S GO.

"LET'S GO SEE THE WOMAN IN CHARGE."
I AM THE BRIDE OF THE ENDLESS REACH. BRIDE TO THE HOUSE OF THE GOSSAMER CLAN. SHE WHO KNOWS THE COURSE OF FATE, SHE WHO CAN OBTAIN ALL THINGS.
I AM PRINCESS SALLY ALICIA ACORN, DAUGHTER OF KING MAXIMILLIAN AND LEADER OF THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS.
I AM MONKEY KHAN.
OH NO, YOU DON'T. WE NEED YOU AT THE TOP OF YOUR GAME, TOO.
...THE KING OF THE FREE PEOPLE. APPOINTED DEFENDER OF THE PEOPLE OF THE DRAGON KINGDOM WITHOUT A CLAN TO CALL THEIR OWN.
YO, I'M SONIC.
MY NAME IS TAILS. I'M WITH HIM.

GUYS! WOULD YOU PLEASE--!
Ah, THE ACORN PRINCESS. WE WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE TO HEAR YOUR ACCOUNT OF OUR DEAREST DAUGHTER--
--UMA ARACHNIS.
SHE WAS ONE OF YOURS?
WAIT, I THOUGHT YOU'D NEVER BEEN TO THE DRAGON KINGDOM?
SHE WAS A MINION OF THE EVIL WIZARD IXIS NAUGUS AND ESCAPED FROM THE ZONE OF SILENCE WITH HIM ALONG WHILE AGO.*
* SONIC ARCHIVES VOL. 14

"ARCHIE HAS BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN KEEPING THE VIDEO GAME LEGENDS OF OUR CHILDHOOD ALIVE AND WELL!" - IGN
SONIC UNIVERSE
JOURNEY TO THE EAST
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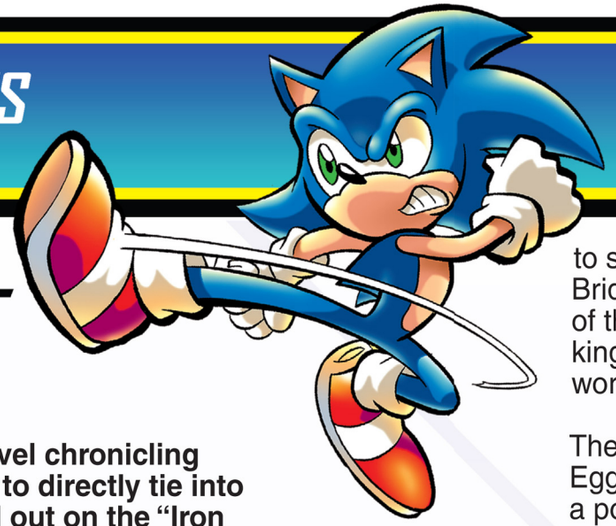
SONIC UNIVERSE
VOLUME 4
JOURNEY TO THE EAST
ON SALE NOW!
SCAN THE CODE!

SONIC SUPER SPECIAL PRESENTS



JOURNEY TO THE EAST FEATURETTE

Coming soon is the newest Sonic Universe graphic novel chronicling the "Journey to the East" arc! It was the first story arc to directly tie into on-going events in Sonic the Hedgehog. If you missed out on the "Iron Dominion Saga," as a new fan you might feel a bit lost. Never fear! Your latest Super Special has a Super Special Primer for you!

Way back in Sonic Archives Vol. 16, Sonic and Tails were on the hunt for the evil wizard Ixis Naugus. Their quest took them all the way to the far-east Dragon Kingdom. There they found a village under the shadow of Mt. Stormtop – and the mountain on fire! The residents were being menaced by two new villains: the Iron King and Queen.

Jun Kun -- the Iron King -- was an ox warlord, impervious and impossibly strong. Regina Ferrum, the Iron Queen, used her technomancy to control machines and keep the mountain burning. Together they were out to conquer the region for Dr. Eggman.

Sonic and Tails teamed up with Monkey Khan and dethroned the Iron Monarchs. Sonic and Tails went on to deal with Ixis Naugus, and Khan had a few more adventures of his own. It looked like Regina and Jun were gone for good. But evil doesn't give up that easily!

The Dragon Kingdom was divided by six factions. Four of them were powerful ninja clans – or "houses." Each house was controlled by a "bride" – a powerful female ninja who was "married" to her house and her people. The fifth faction was Dr. Eggman's forces – the Iron Monarchs! As these five factions battled for control of the region, the sixth – the Free People – were caught in the crossfire.

After her defeat at Mt. Stormtop, Regina crafted a new plan. She had one of the Brides assassinated and took control of her house, using her ninja to sew confusion in the region. The remaining Brides were forced to swear loyalty to Regina, making her the Bride of Four Houses – and now the ruler of the Dragon Kingdom! But the dragon kingdom wasn't enough – she wanted the world!

THAT IS ONE MAD MONKEY!
MONKEY KHAN WAS MORE OF A VILLAIN THAN HERO IN HIS ORIGINAL APPEARANCE IN SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #55, AVAILABLE IN SONIC ARCHIVES VOL. 15!

The Eggman Empire was about to fall. Dr. Eggman had a nervous breakdown, leaving a power vacuum. Snively had begun a long-distant love affair with Regina, and with Eggman incapacitated, invited her to take over. With an army of ninjas backing her up and Eggman's army waiting for her, Regina took over effortlessly. The Iron Dominion's conquest had begun!

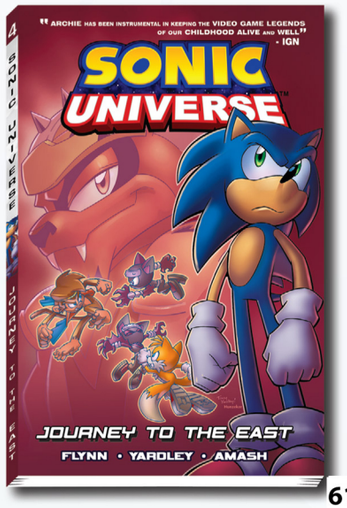
Monkey Khan tried to warn Sonic, but he arrived too late to stop the invasion. The Khan that arrived was much humbler than the one Sonic met before. This kinder, gentler Khan caught the eye of Princess Sally, and a royal romance began to bud. As the Freedom Fighters fought to keep the Iron Dominion at bay, however, Khan's dark secret was revealed: being a cyborg, he was prone to Regina's technomancy, and she used him to destroy the Dragon Kingdom's Freedom Fighters.

Sonic and our heroes had the Iron Dominion at a stalemate... That all changed when Regina used her technomancy on Nicole and took control of the city! Only Sonic, Tails, Sally and Khan managed to escape the Iron Dominion's take-over.

Out-numbered and out-gunned, they realized they needed to break the Iron Queen's power base back in the Dragon Kingdom. Without four clans of ninjas to back her up, the battle would become much easier!

Now they're off to the Dragon Kingdom to liberate the Four Houses. Will they succeed? Pick up "Journey to the East" in Sonic Universe vol. 4 and find out! ■

TO FIND OUT MORE READ SONIC UNIVERSE VOL. 4 JOURNEY TO THE EAST AVAILABLE NOW!


"ARCHIE HAS BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN KEEPING THE VIDEO GAME LEGENDS OF OUR CHILDHOOD ALIVE AND WELL." - IGN
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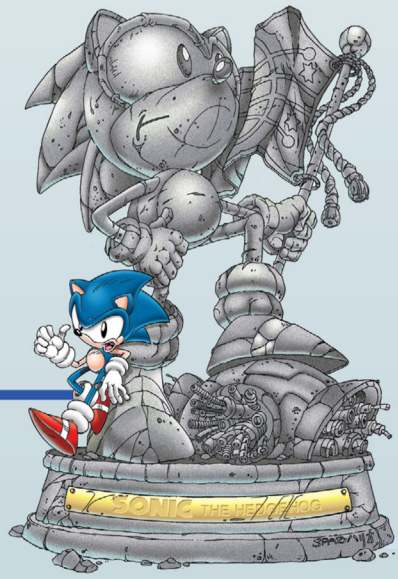
SONIC SUPER SPECIAL COMIC FEATURE:

PREVIOUSLY...

IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE IRON DOMINION'S INVASION, SONIC AND HIS HEROIC FRIENDS HAVE EMBARKED ON SEVERAL ADVENTURES AROUND THE GLOBE, CONDUCTING HIT-AND-RUN ATTACKS ON EGGMAN'S VARIOUS STANDING FORCES.

AFTER A TITANIC BATTLE IN THE NORTHERN TUNDRA WITH EGGMAN'S ORCA ARMY LEAD BY THE EVIL AHKLUT, SONIC AND BUNNIE ARE NOW VENTURING SOUTH TO THE DESERT AND THE DEADLY SAND BLAST CITY.

SAND BLAST CITY IS NO STRANGER TO SONIC THE HEDGEHOG, AS THIS GROUP OF MISGUIDED "FREEDOM FIGHTERS" WENT FROM VIRTUALLY WORSHIPING THE BLUE BLUR, TO TURNING ON AND NEARLY DESTROYING HIM! SONIC AND BUNNIE SHOULD TREAD CAREFULLY...



DID YOU KNOW...

This story marks the full-story pencilling debut of artist Ben Bates! Ben went on to draw tons of Sonic comics, including the landmark post-genesis issues, as well as stints on Mega Man™ and New Crusaders! ■

Yardley + Dusk
+ HERR

WELCOME TO SONIC'S COMIC BOOK ADVENTURES--A WORLD UNIQUE AND BEYOND WHAT YOU KNOW FROM THE SEGA GAMES--WHERE SONIC AND THE HEROIC FREEDOM FIGHTERS WORK TO SAVE THE WORLD FROM THE FORCES OF EVIL!
CRACK-
OW!
BLAM!

THICKER THAN WATER

PART ONE

Writer: IAN FLYNN
Pencils: BEN BATES
Inker: TERRY AUSTIN
Colors: MATT HERMS
Letters:
JOHN WORKMAN
Cover by
TRACY YARDLEY!
and MATT HERMS

OKAY, THIS IS **NOT** HOW TODAY WAS SUPPOSED TO GO.

I KNEW IT WOULDN'T BE EASY...

...BUT I SHOULDN'T BE FIGHTING **BUNNIE!**

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG
Hero of Mobius

BUNNIE D'COOLETTE
The Rabbot

JACK RABBIT
Renegade Leader

THE BARON
???

Editor: PAUL KAMINSKI
Managing Editor:
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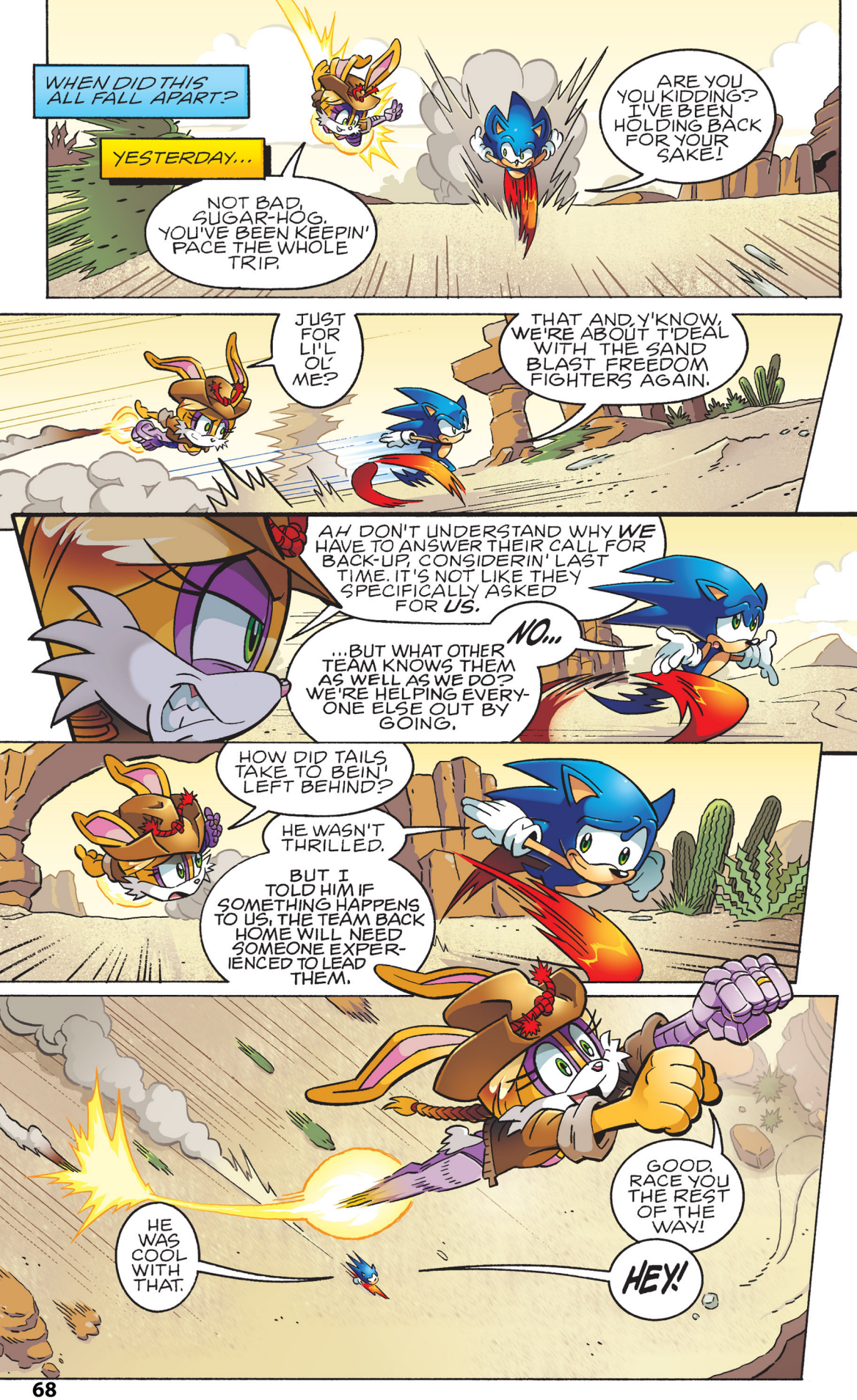
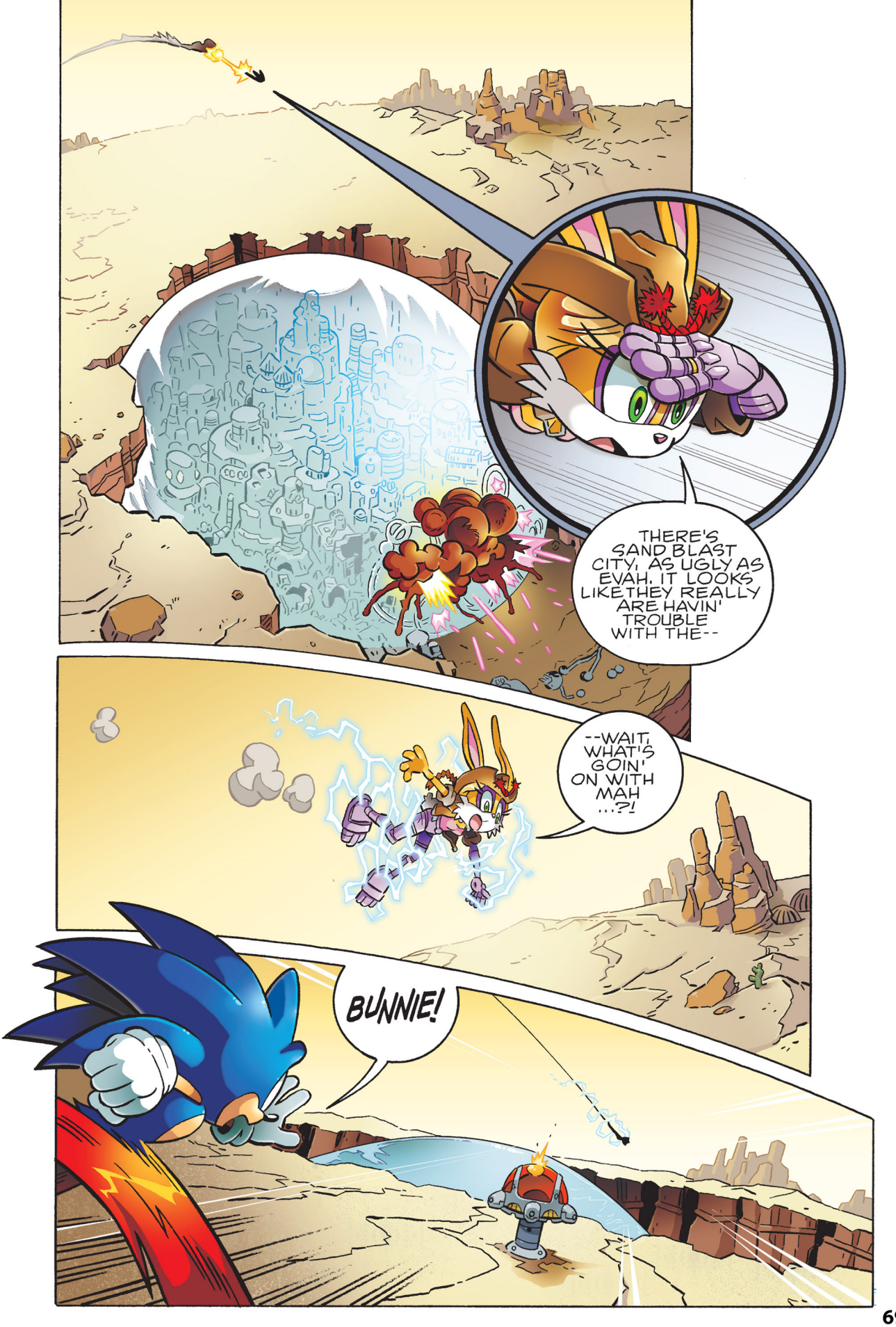
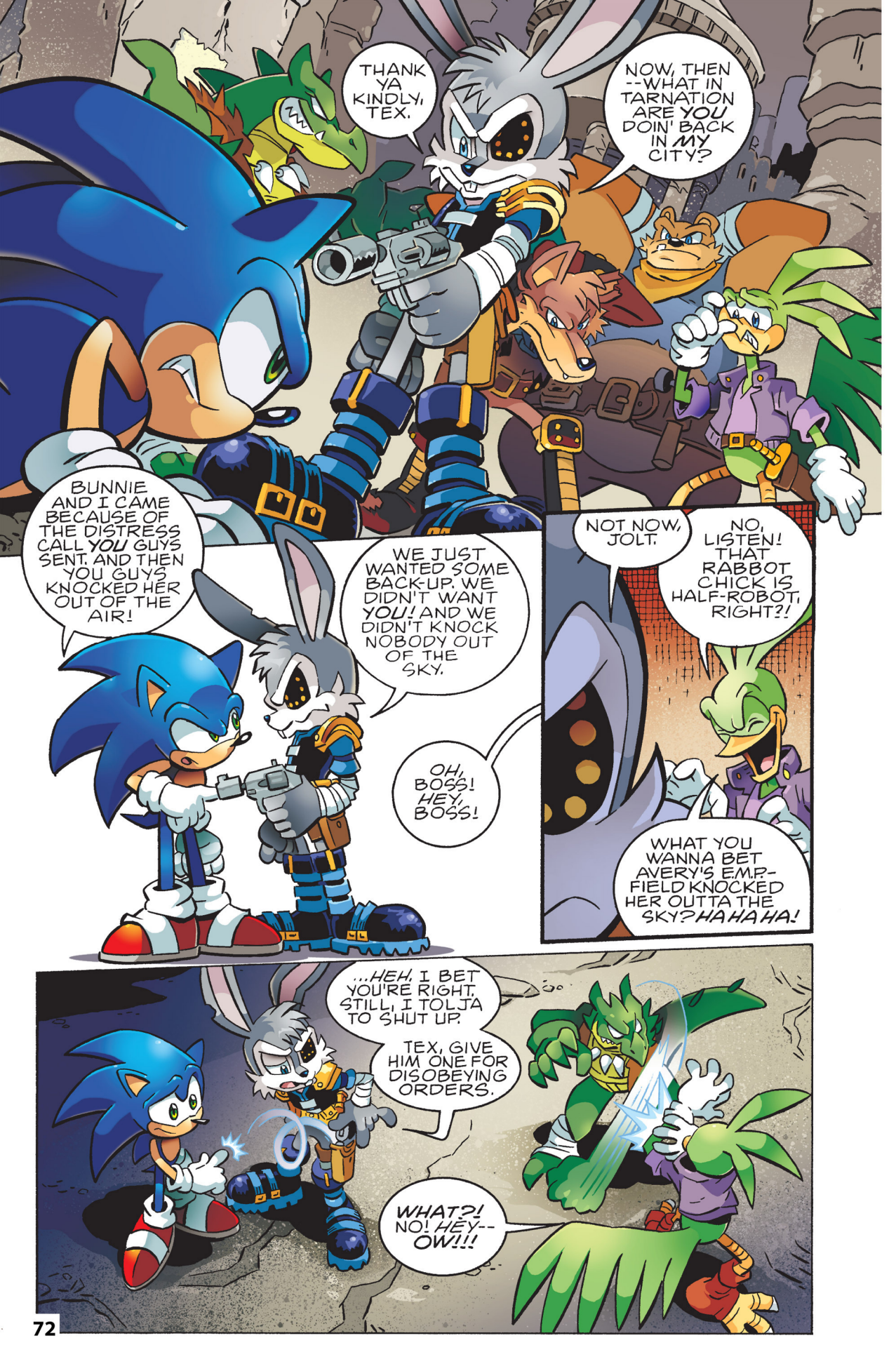

WHEN DID THIS ALL FALL APART?
YESTERDAY...
NOT BAD, SUGAR-HOG. YOU'VE BEEN KEEPIN' PACE THE WHOLE TRIP.
ARE YOU YOU KIDDING? I'VE BEEN HOLDING BACK FOR YOUR SAKE!
JUST FOR LI'L OL' ME?
THAT AND, Y'KNOW, WE'RE ABOUT T'DEAL WITH THE SAND BLAST FREEDOM FIGHTERS AGAIN.
AH DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY WE HAVE TO ANSWER THEIR CALL FOR BACK-UP, CONSIDERIN' LAST TIME. IT'S NOT LIKE THEY SPECIFICALLY ASKED FOR US.
NO...
...BUT WHAT OTHER TEAM KNOWS THEM AS WELL AS WE DO? WE'RE HELPING EVERY-ONE ELSE OUT BY GOING.
HOW DID TAILS TAKE TO BEIN' LEFT BEHIND?
HE WASN'T THRILLED.
BUT I TOLD HIM IF SOMETHING HAPPENS TO US, THE TEAM BACK HOME WILL NEED SOMEONE EXPER-IENCED TO LEAD THEM.
GOOD. RACE YOU THE REST OF THE WAY!
HEY!
HE WAS COOL WITH THAT.

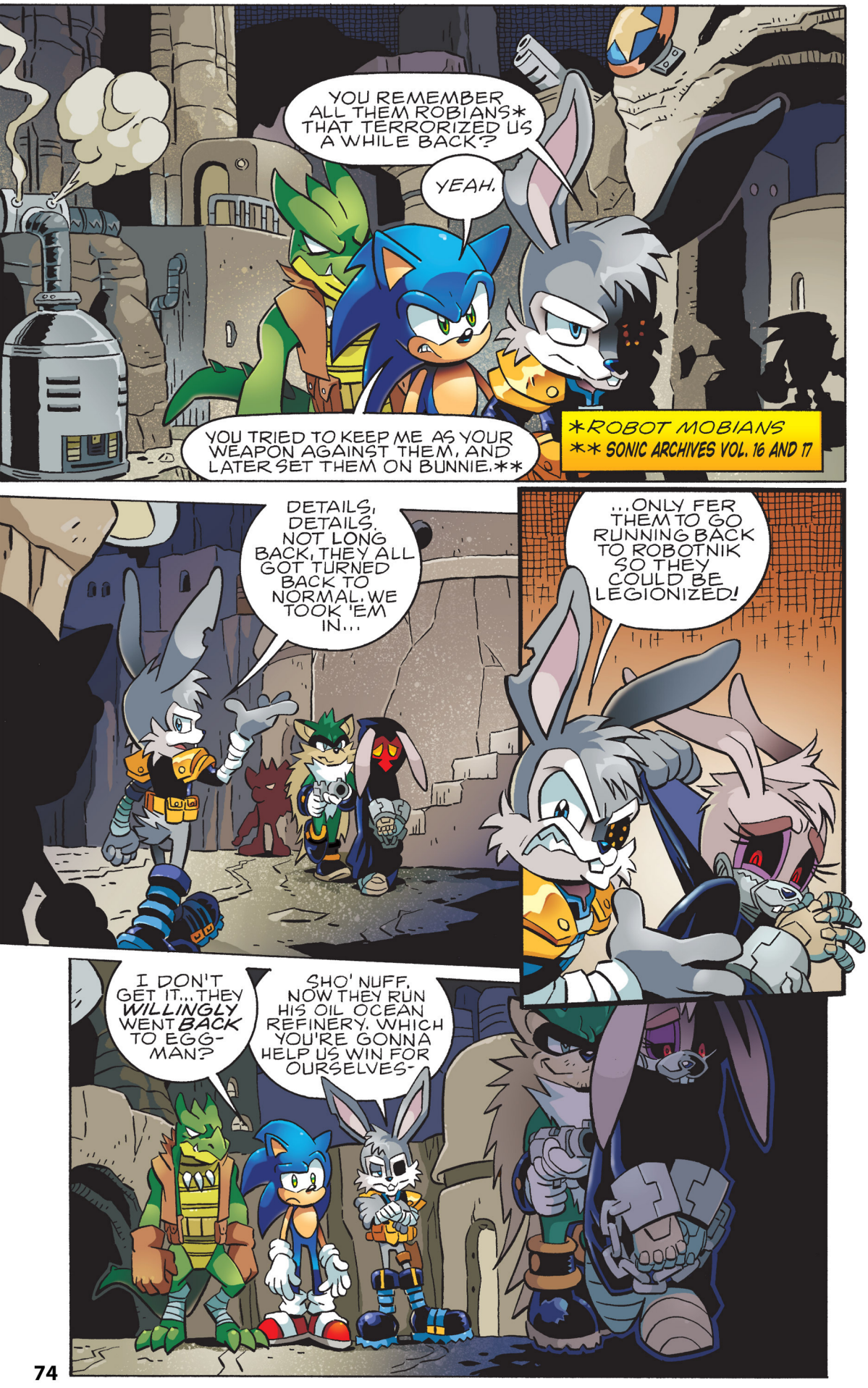

THERE'S SAND BLAST CITY, AS UGLY AS EVAH. IT LOOKS LIKE THEY REALLY ARE HAVIN' TROUBLE WITH THE--
--WAIT, WHAT'S GOIN' ON WITH MAH ...?!
BUNNIE!

WE COME TO HELP, AND THE SAND BLASTERS DOUBLE-CROSS US, BIG, STINKING SURPRISE!
C'MON, BOYS! WE GOTTA MOVE THIS GEAR UP!
RUMBLE
BOOM
ALL RIGHT, JERKS! WHERE'S JACK ?!

IT'S THAT DOWN-AND-DIRTY TRAITOR, SONIC! GET HIM!
BRING IT! I WAS EXPECTING A FIGHT FROM YOU! AND THAT WAS *BEFORE* YOU ATTACKED BUNNIE!
FOOL! WE HAVEN'T HAD...
...THE DISPLEASURE OF HER COMPANY IN SOME TIME!
SAVE YOUR BREATH, SHIFT! I SAW HER FALL!
ARGH!

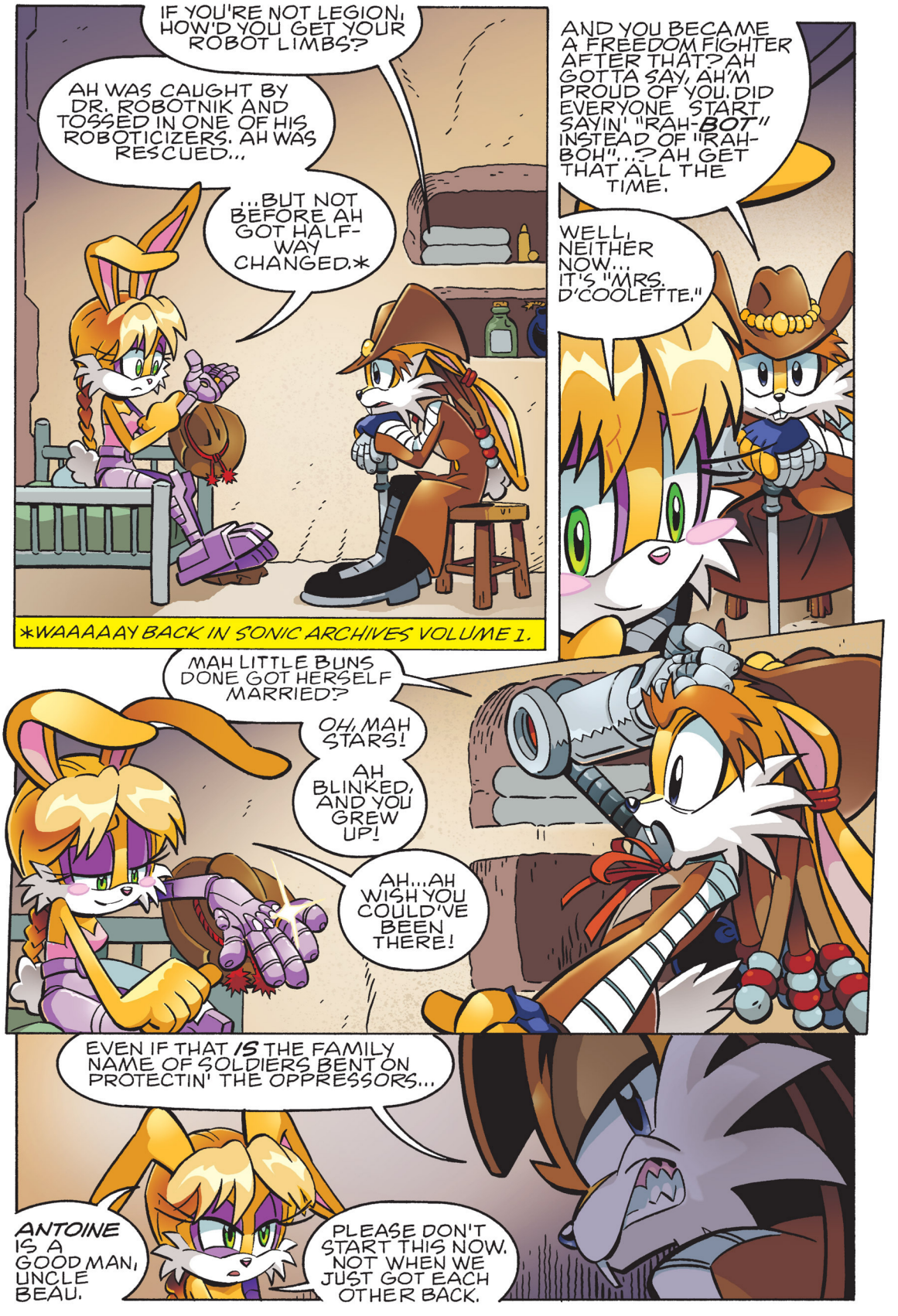

THANK YA KINDLY, TEX.
NOW, THEN --WHAT IN TARNATION ARE YOU DOIN' BACK IN MY CITY?
BUNNIE AND I CAME BECAUSE OF THE DISTRESS CALL YOU GUYS SENT. AND THEN YOU GUYS KNOCKED HER OUT OF THE AIR!
WE JUST WANTED SOME BACK-UP. WE DIDN'T WANT YOU! AND WE DIDN'T KNOCK NOBODY OUT OF THE SKY.
OH, BOSS! HEY, BOSS!
NOT NOW, JOLT.
NO, LISTEN! THAT RABBOT CHICK IS HALF-ROBOT, RIGHT?!
WHAT YOU WANNA BET AVERY'S E.M.P.-FIELD KNOCKED HER OUTTA THE SKY? HA HA HA!
...HEH, I BET YOU'RE RIGHT. STILL, I TOLJA TO SHUT UP.
TEX, GIVE HIM ONE FOR DISOBEYING ORDERS.
WHAT?! NO! HEY-- OW!!!

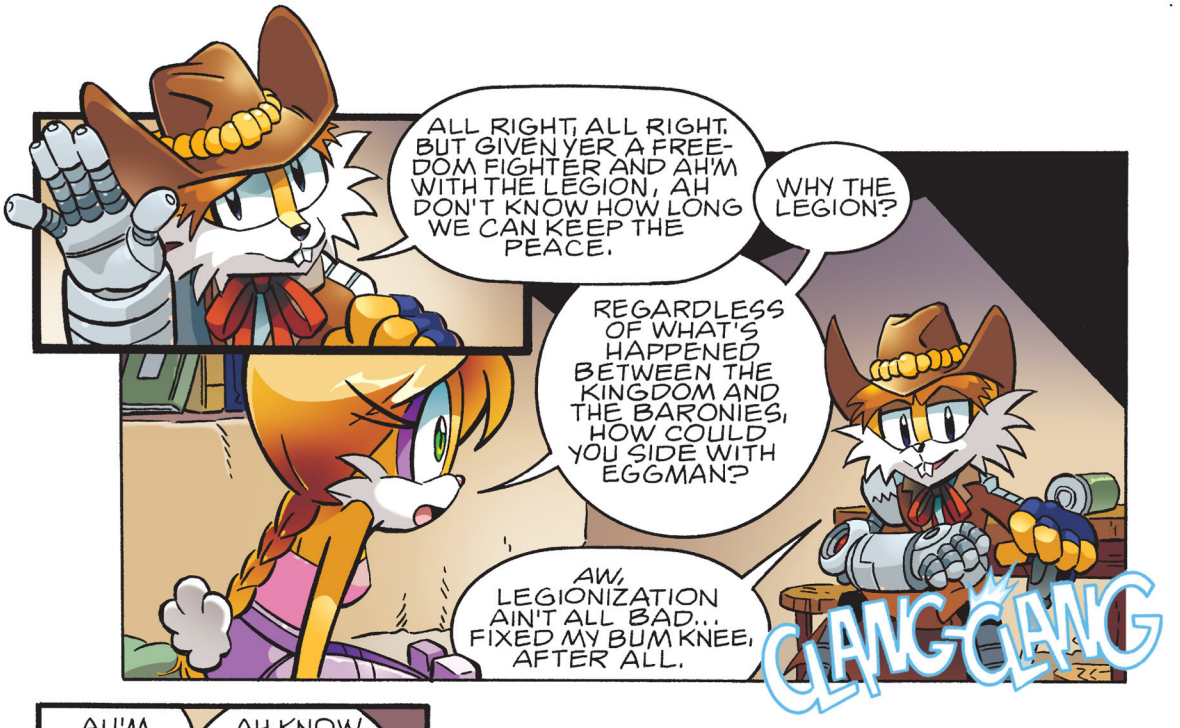
AVERY HERE BUILT US SOME E.M.P.* BEACONS AROUND THE CITY. KEEPS THE DARK EGG LEGION FROM GETTIN' TOO CLOSE IF OUR SHIELD GOES DOWN. BUNNIE MUSTA BEEN KNOCKED OUT BY ONE O' THEM.
FINE. "HONEST" MISTAKE. WHAT HAPPENED TO HER?
WELL, SOMETHIN' FELL FROM THE SKY, AN' THE LEGION GRABBED IT AND TURNED TAIL. I RECKON SHE'S BEEN CAPTURED BY NOW. WE MIGHT BE WILLIN' TO HELP RESCUE HER... IF YOU HELP US WITH ONE LI'L PROJECT.
*ELECTRO-MAGNETIC PULSE
WHICH IS?
JUST HELP US TAKE OVER DOC EGGMAN'S BASE.
...DEAL.
HEH HEH HEH HEH
Y'HEAR THAT, BOYS?
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG'S GONNA LET BYGONES BE BYGONES!
HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH!
THEN WE'LL SEE 'BOUT BUNNIE. SHE'LL BE IN FINE COMPANY, ANYWAY.
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?


YOU REMEMBER ALL THEM ROBIANS* THAT TERRORIZED US A WHILE BACK?
YEAH.
YOU TRIED TO KEEP ME AS YOUR WEAPON AGAINST THEM, AND LATER SET THEM ON BUNNIE.**
*ROBOT MOBIANS
** SONIC ARCHIVES VOL. 16 AND 17
DETAILS, DETAILS. NOT LONG BACK, THEY ALL GOT TURNED BACK TO NORMAL. WE TOOK 'EM IN...
...ONLY FER THEM TO GO RUNNING BACK TO ROBOTNIK SO THEY COULD BE LEGIONIZED!
I DON'T GET IT... THEY WILLINGLY WENT BACK TO EGG-MAN?
SHO' NUFF. NOW THEY RUN HIS OIL OCEAN REFINERY. WHICH YOU'RE GONNA HELP US WIN FOR OURSELVES-

...FIRST THING IN THE MORNING.
...UGH...WHAT IN THE HOO-HAH HAPPENED...?
SHE'S AWAKE.
LEGIONNAIRES! THINK Y'ALL CAN HOLD ME PRISONER?!
WH-WHAT?! W-WE WERE ORDERED TO RESCUE YOU WHEN YOU FELL FROM THE SKY!
BARON! BARON!!!
NOW HOLD ON THERE, BUNS.
OH, MAH STARS...
YER AMONG FRIENDS, SWEET-HEART.

UNCLE BEAUREGUARD! AH DIDN'T THINK AH'D EVER SEE YOU AGAIN!
SAME HERE, DARLIN'.
OH, I MISSED YOU.
BUT...
...YOU...
...YOU'RE... DARK EGG LEGION?
YES'M, GRAND-MASTER. AREN'T YOU?
NO...NO, UNCLE BEAU. AH'M A FREEDOM FIGHTER.
BOYS, WILL Y'ALL EXCUSE US FOR A BIT?
AH THINK WE'VE GOT A BIT OF CATCHIN'-UP TO DO, SWEET-HEART.

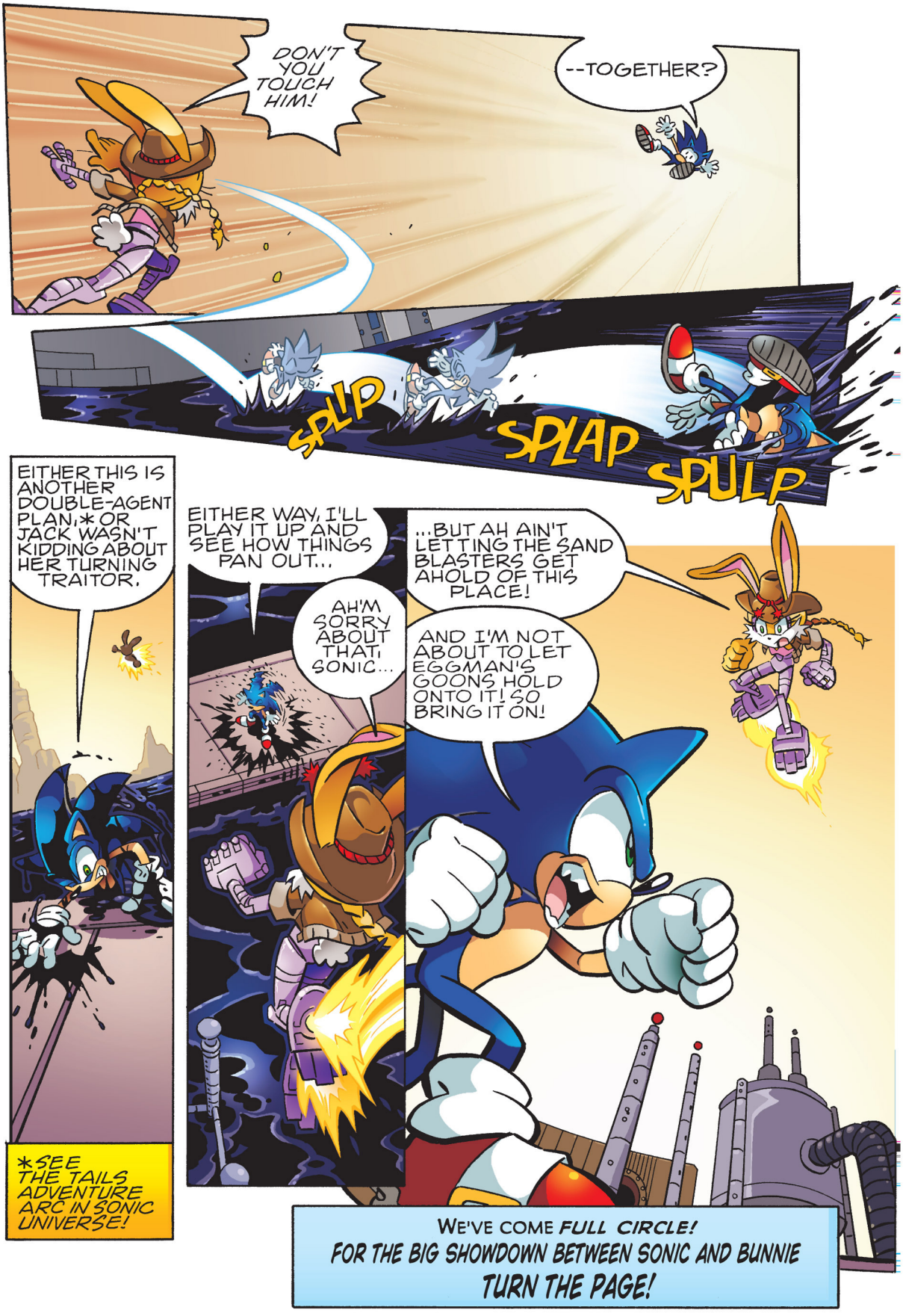

IF YOU'RE NOT LEGION, HOW'D YOU GET YOUR ROBOT LIMBS?
AH WAS CAUGHT BY DR. ROBOTNIK AND TOSSED IN ONE OF HIS ROBOTICIZERS. AH WAS RESCUED...
...BUT NOT BEFORE AH GOT HALF-WAY CHANGED.*
*WAAAAAY BACK IN SONIC ARCHIVES VOLUME 1.
AND YOU BECAME A FREEDOM FIGHTER AFTER THAT? AH GOTTA SAY, AH'M PROUD OF YOU. DID EVERYONE START SAYIN' "RAH-BOT" INSTEAD OF "RAH-BOH"...? AH GET THAT ALL THE TIME.
WELL, NEITHER NOW... IT'S "MRS. D'COOLETTE."
MAH LITTLE BUNS DONE GOT HERSELF MARRIED?
OH, MAH STARS!
AH BLINKED, AND YOU GREW UP!
AH...AH WISH YOU COULD'VE BEEN THERE!
EVEN IF THAT IS THE FAMILY NAME OF SOLDIERS BENT ON PROTECTIN' THE OPPRESSORS...
ANTOINE IS A GOOD MAN, UNCLE BEAU.
PLEASE DON'T START THIS NOW. NOT WHEN WE JUST GOT EACH OTHER BACK.

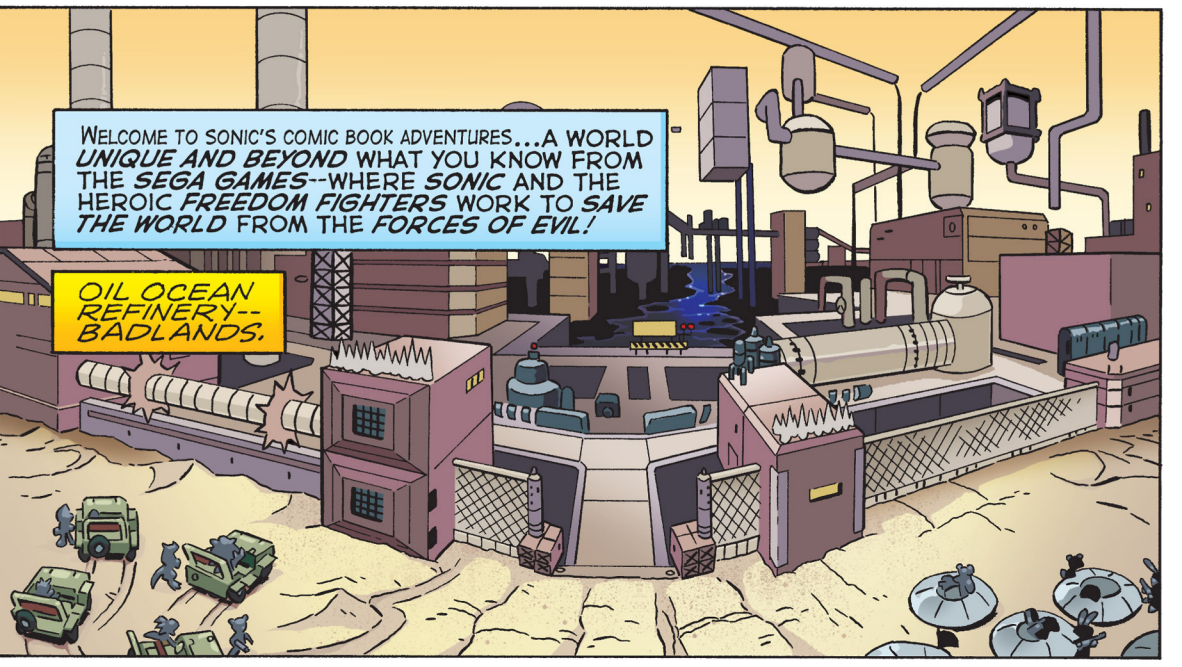

ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT. BUT GIVEN YER A FREEDOM FIGHTER AND AH'M WITH THE LEGION, AH DON'T KNOW HOW LONG WE CAN KEEP THE PEACE.
WHY THE LEGION?
REGARDLESS OF WHAT'S HAPPENED BETWEEN THE KINGDOM AND THE BARONIES, HOW COULD YOU SIDE WITH EGGMAN?
AW, LEGIONIZATION AIN'T ALL BAD... FIXED MY BUM KNEE, AFTER ALL.
CLANG-CLANG

AH'M SERIOUS.
AH KNOW. AND THERE'S NO SENSE KEEPIN' IT FROM YOU, SEEIN' AS YER ALL GROWN UP.
WALK WITH ME, SWEETHEART.
WE USED TO BE ROBIANS.
SLAVES TO DOCTOR ROBOTNIK AND THE CANNON-FODDER SET AGAINST SAND BLAST CITY...

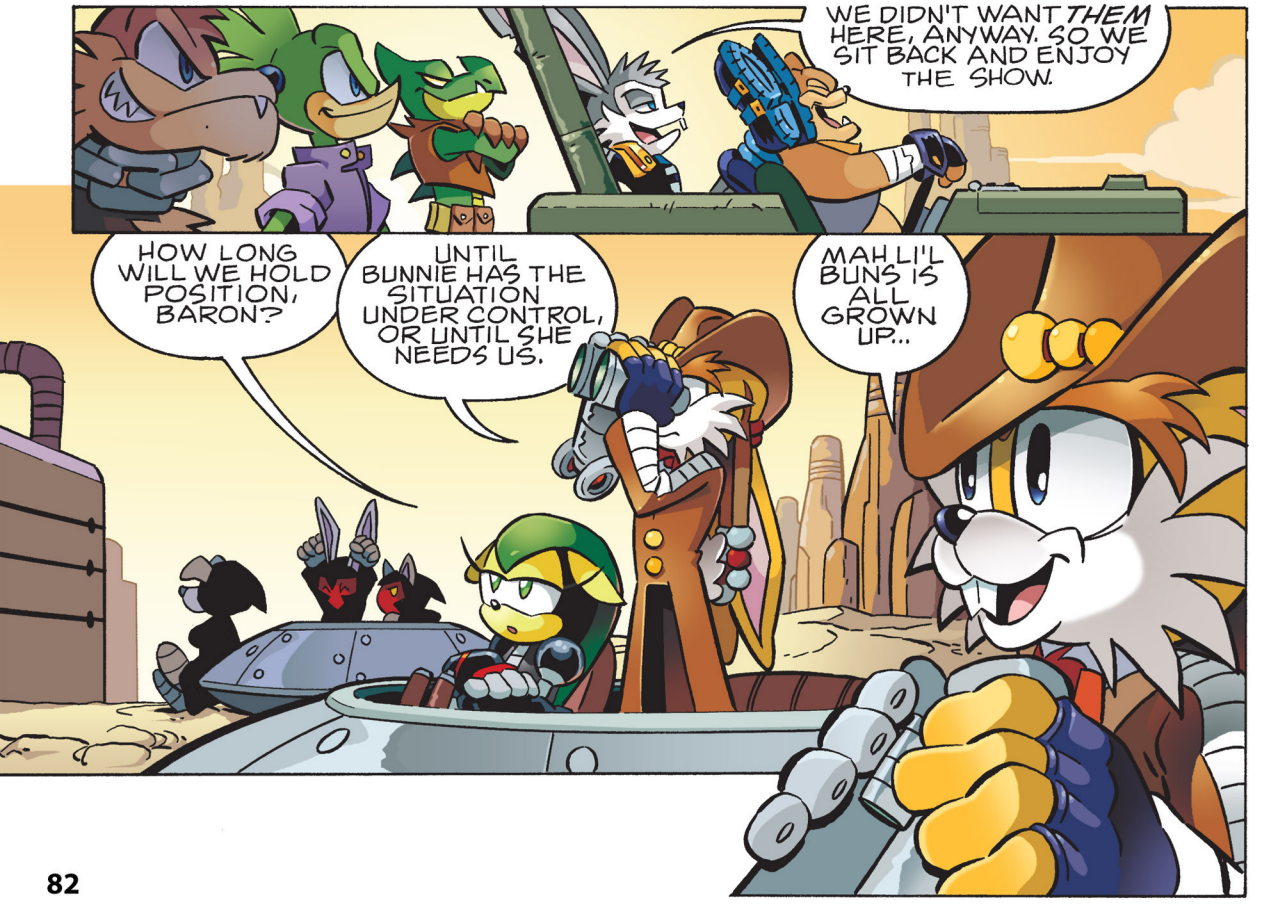
THANKS!
ONE DAY, WE WERE SUDDENLY BACK TO NORMAL. NOBODY'S QUITE SURE HOW, BUT WE WERE THANKFUL. WE TRIED TO MAKE PEACE WITH THE SAND BLASTERS, SETTLE A BIT BEFORE TRYING TO GET BACK TO OUR HOMES...
THEY SHOWED US NO MERCY. "ONCE A ROBIAN, ALWAYS A ROBIAN," THEY SAID. WE WERE WORSE THAN SLAVES UNDER THEM.
THEY DROVE US INTO THE BADLANDS...
WE HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO ASK THE EGGMAN EMPIRE FOR HELP. AH DID MY BEST TO ORGANIZE AND PROTECT THESE PEOPLE...
EXCUSE ME, BARON. WHERE DID YOU WANT THIS?
FORWARD BAT TERY PLEASE, MATILDA. THANK YOU KINDLY.
OF COURSE.
WE DON'T WANT TO BE PART OF THIS, SWEETHEART. WE DON'T WANT TO PROTECT THE REFINERY. BUT WE AIN'T GOT A CHOICE RIGHT NOW.
...AH UNDER-STAND, UNCLE BEAU. AH'LL DO WHAT AH CAN TO HELP Y'ALL.
THANK YOU, SWEET-HEART.

THE NEXT MORNING...
'NOTHER DAY, 'NOTHER FIGHT FOR THE REFINERY. ONLY THIS TIME WILL BE DIFFERENT, WON'T IT?
YEAH-YEAH-YEAH. THE FASTER WE WIN THIS, THE FASTER I FIND BUNNIE.
FUNNY YOU SHOULD SAY THAT. LOOKS LIKE THE LITTLE TRAITOR'S RIDIN' FRONT SEAT WITH THE LEGION.
WHAT TH--?! THAT'S HER, ALL RIGHT!
CHANGE IN PLANS, JACK. FIRST I RESCUE BUNNIE, THEN WE TAKE OVER THE BASE!
AUGH! DAG-NABBIT!
YOU SHO' YOU'RE OKAY WITH FIGHTIN' THE SAND BLASTERS? THEY'RE FREEDOM FIGHTERS, AFTER ALL.
NOT ONE AMONG 'EM AH WOULDN'T MIND THUMPIN', UNCLE BEAU.
SURPRISE, UGLY! WE FREEDOM FIGHTERS STICK--!

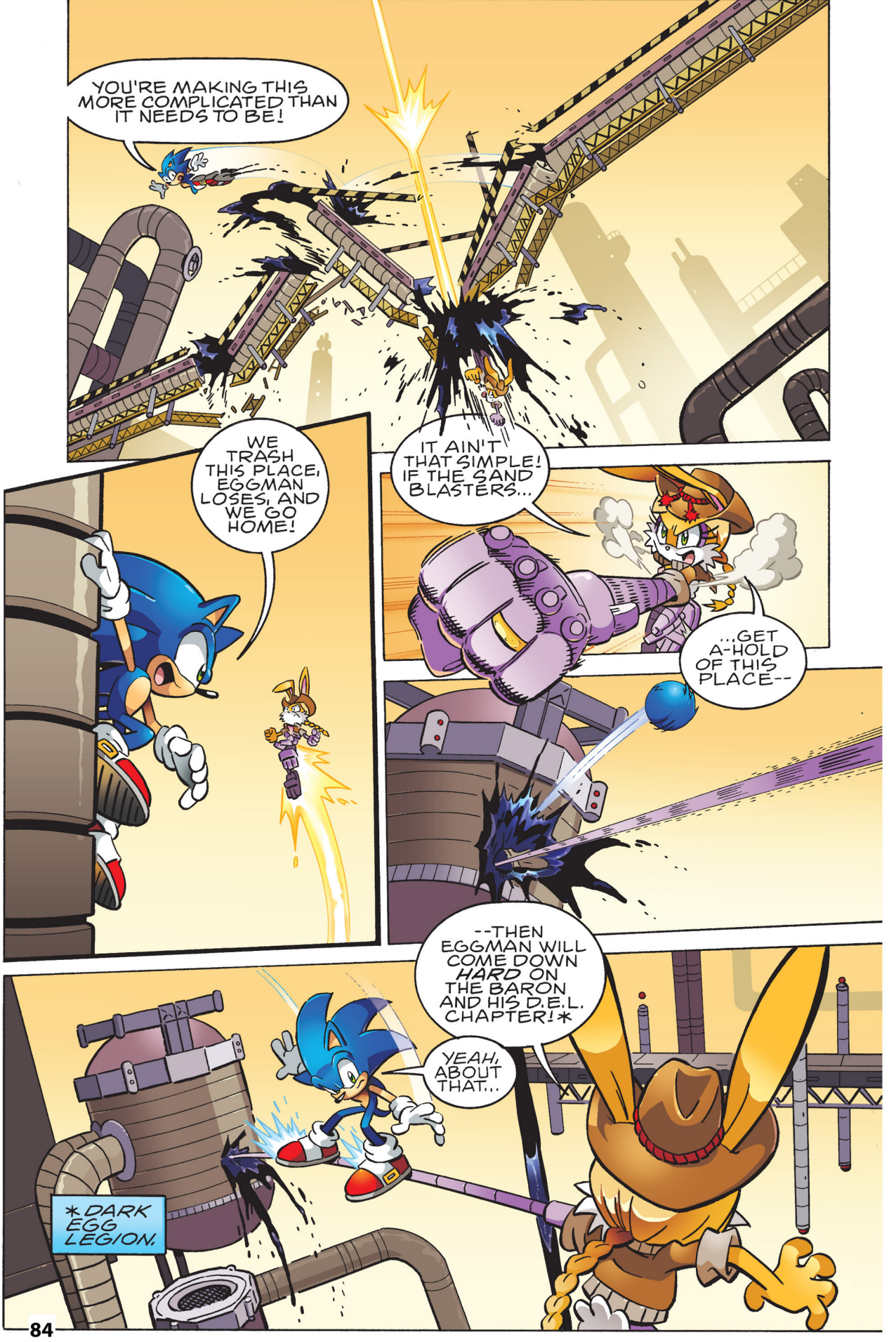

DON'T YOU TOUCH HIM!
--TOGETHER?
SPLIP
SPLAP
SPULP
EITHER THIS IS ANOTHER DOUBLE-AGENT PLAN,* OR JACK WASN'T KIDDING ABOUT HER TURNING TRAITOR.
EITHER WAY, I'LL PLAY IT UP AND SEE HOW THINGS PAN OUT...
AH'M SORRY ABOUT THAT, SONIC...
...BUT AH AIN'T LETTING THE SAND BLASTERS GET AHOLD OF THIS PLACE!
AND I'M NOT ABOUT TO LET EGGMAN'S GOONS HOLD ONTO IT! SO BRING IT ON!
*SEE THE TAILS ADVENTURE ARC IN SONIC UNIVERSE!
WE'VE COME FULL CIRCLE!
FOR THE BIG SHOWDOWN BETWEEN SONIC AND BUNNIE
TURN THE PAGE!

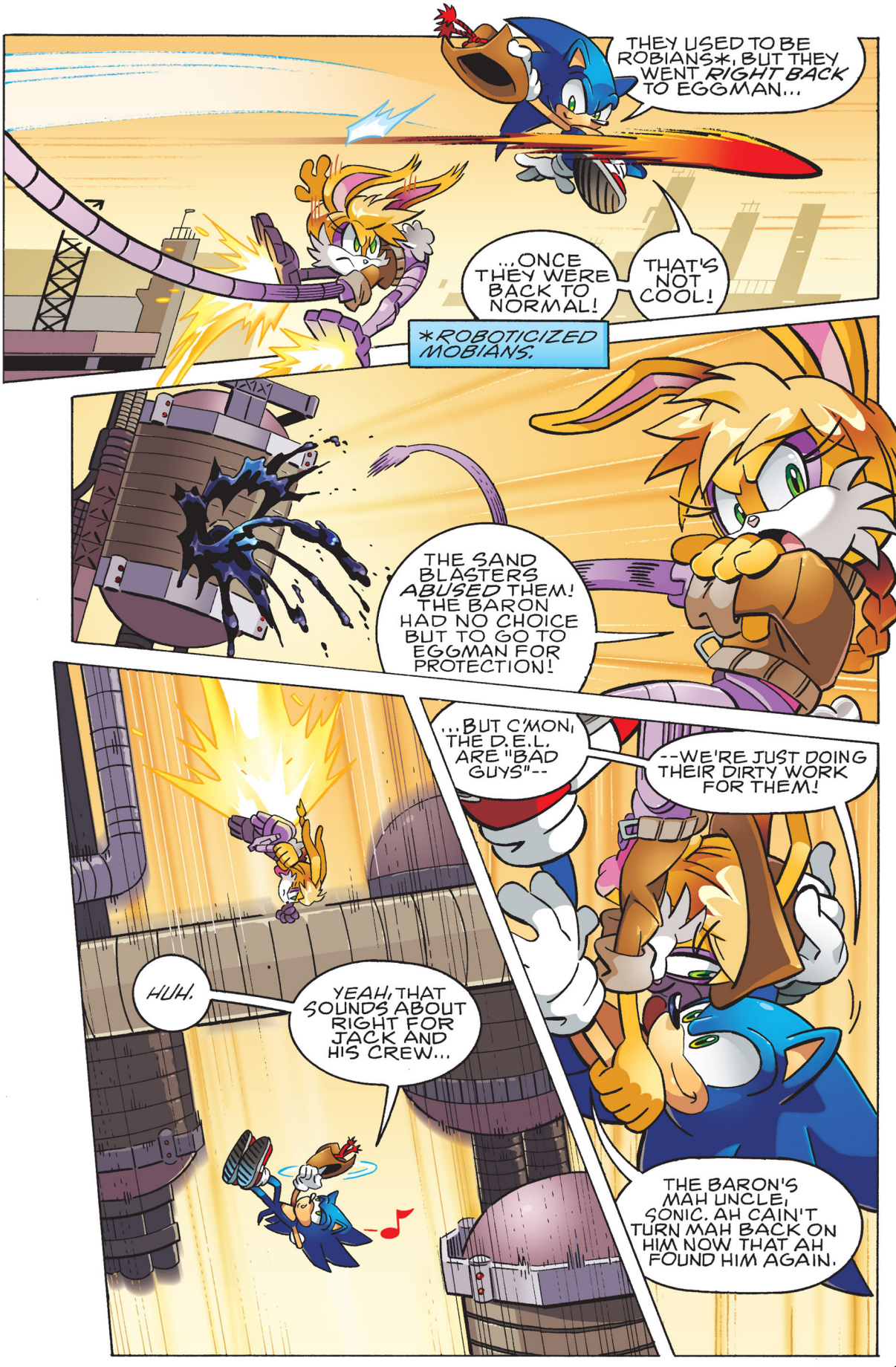

WELCOME TO SONIC'S COMIC BOOK ADVENTURES...A WORLD *UNIQUE AND BEYOND* WHAT YOU KNOW FROM THE *SEGA GAMES*--WHERE *SONIC* AND THE HEROIC *FREEDOM FIGHTERS* WORK TO *SAVE THE WORLD* FROM THE *FORCES OF EVIL!*
OIL OCEAN REFINERY-- BADLANDS.

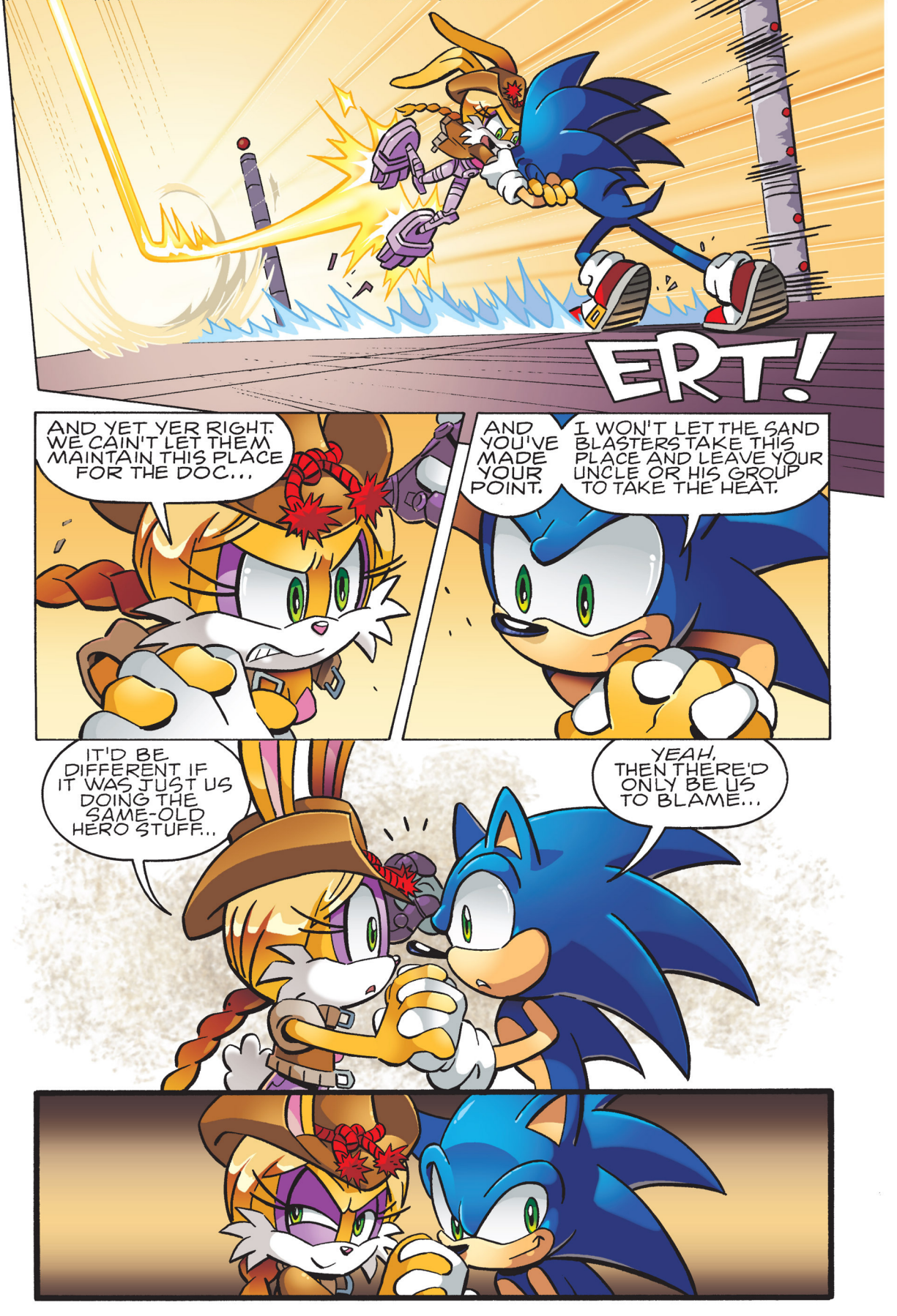
BOSS? HEY, BOSS? HOW COME WE AIN'T STORMING THE REFINERY?
BECAUSE THE TWO VARMINTS WHO'RE S'POSED TO BE OUR BACK-UP...
...ARE BUSY BEATIN' THE TAR OUTTA EACH OTHER.

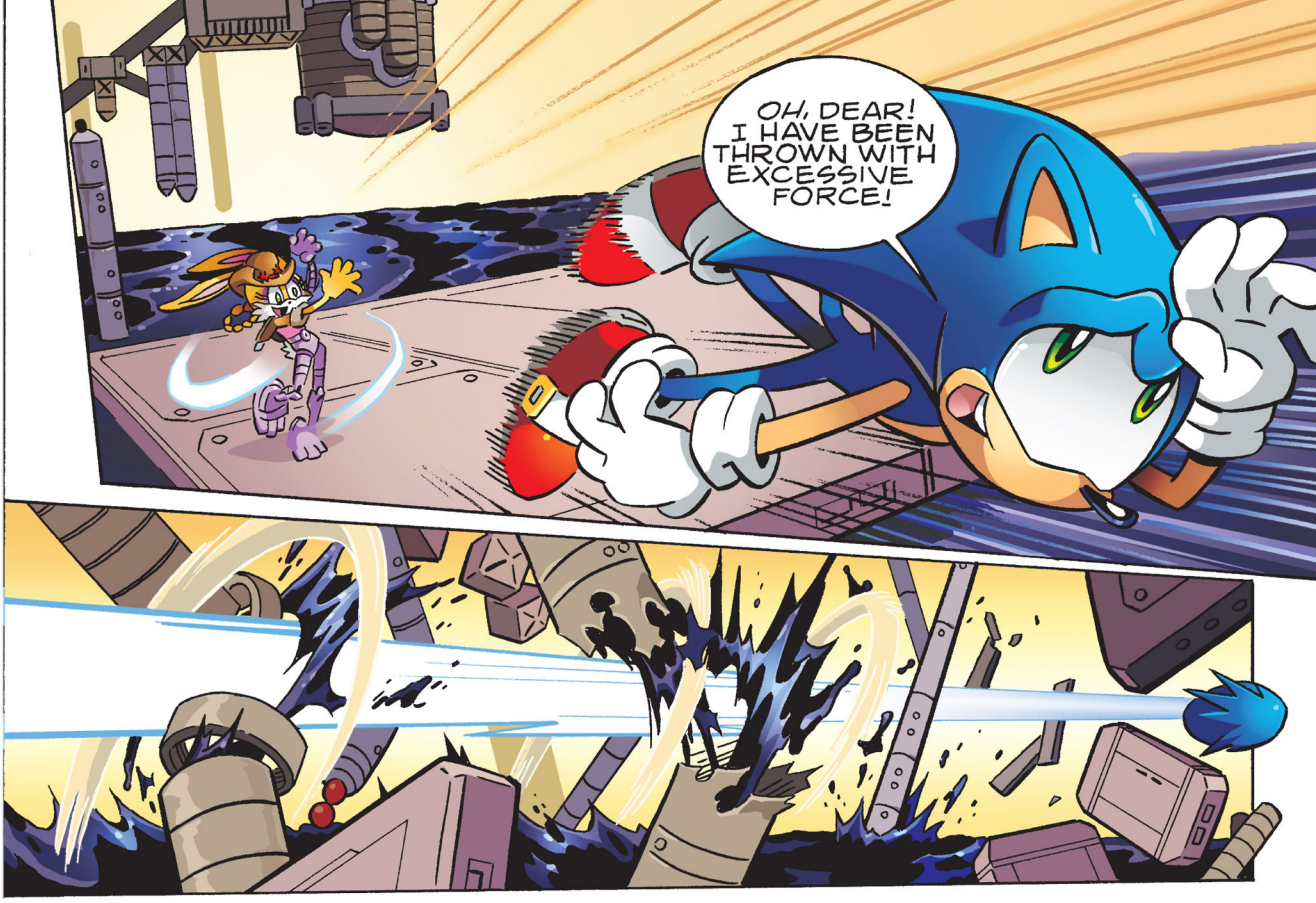

WE DIDN'T WANT *THEM* HERE, ANYWAY. SO WE SIT BACK AND ENJOY THE SHOW.
HOW LONG WILL WE HOLD POSITION, BARON?
UNTIL BUNNIE HAS THE SITUATION UNDER CONTROL, OR UNTIL SHE NEEDS US.
MAH LI'L BUNS IS ALL GROWN UP...

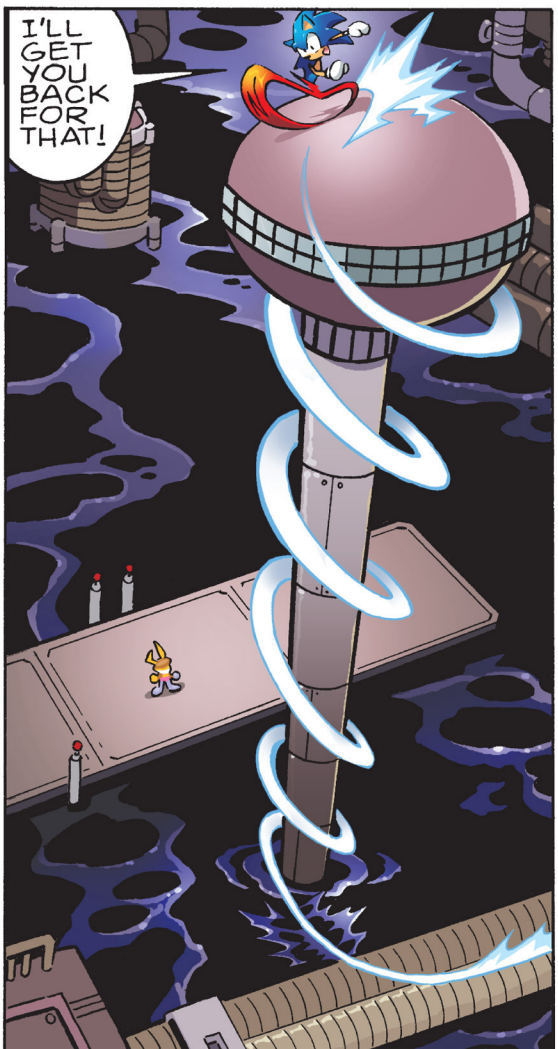
"...AND HOLDIN' HER OWN AGAINST SONIC THE HEDGEHOG."
THICKER THAN WATER PART TWO
WRITER: IAN FLYNN • PENCILS: BEN BATES
INKS: TERRY AUSTIN
LETTERS: JOHN WORKMAN
COLORS: MATT HERMS
COVER BY YARDLEY!, AUSTIN, AND HERMS
EDITOR: PAUL KAMINSKI
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: VICTOR GORELICK
PRESIDENT: MIKE PELLERITO
SPECIAL THANKS TO CINDY CHAU AND JERRY CHU AT SEGA LICENSING
BUNNIE D'COOLETTE
D.E.L. SYMPATHIZER?
THE BARON
D.E.L. GRANDMASTER
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG
HERO OF MOBIUS
SAND BLAST FREEDOM FIGHTERS
RENEGADES


YOU'RE MAKING THIS MORE COMPLICATED THAN IT NEEDS TO BE!
WE TRASH THIS PLACE, EGGMAN LOSES, AND WE GO HOME!
IT AIN'T THAT SIMPLE! IF THE SAND BLASTERS...
...GET A-HOLD OF THIS PLACE--
--THEN EGGMAN WILL COME DOWN *HARD* ON THE BARON AND HIS D.E.L. CHAPTER!*
YEAH, ABOUT THAT...
*DARK EGG LEGION.


THEY USED TO BE ROBIANS*, BUT THEY WENT *RIGHT BACK* TO EGGMAN...
...ONCE THEY WERE BACK TO NORMAL!
THAT'S NOT COOL!
*ROBOTICIZED MOBIANS.
THE SAND BLASTERS *ABUSED* THEM! THE BARON HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO GO TO EGGMAN FOR PROTECTION!
...BUT C'MON, THE D.E.L. ARE "BAD GUYS"--
--WE'RE JUST DOING THEIR DIRTY WORK FOR THEM!
HUH.
YEAH, THAT SOUNDS ABOUT RIGHT FOR JACK AND HIS CREW...
THE BARON'S MAH UNCLE, SONIC. AH CAIN'T TURN MAH BACK ON HIM NOW THAT AH FOUND HIM AGAIN.

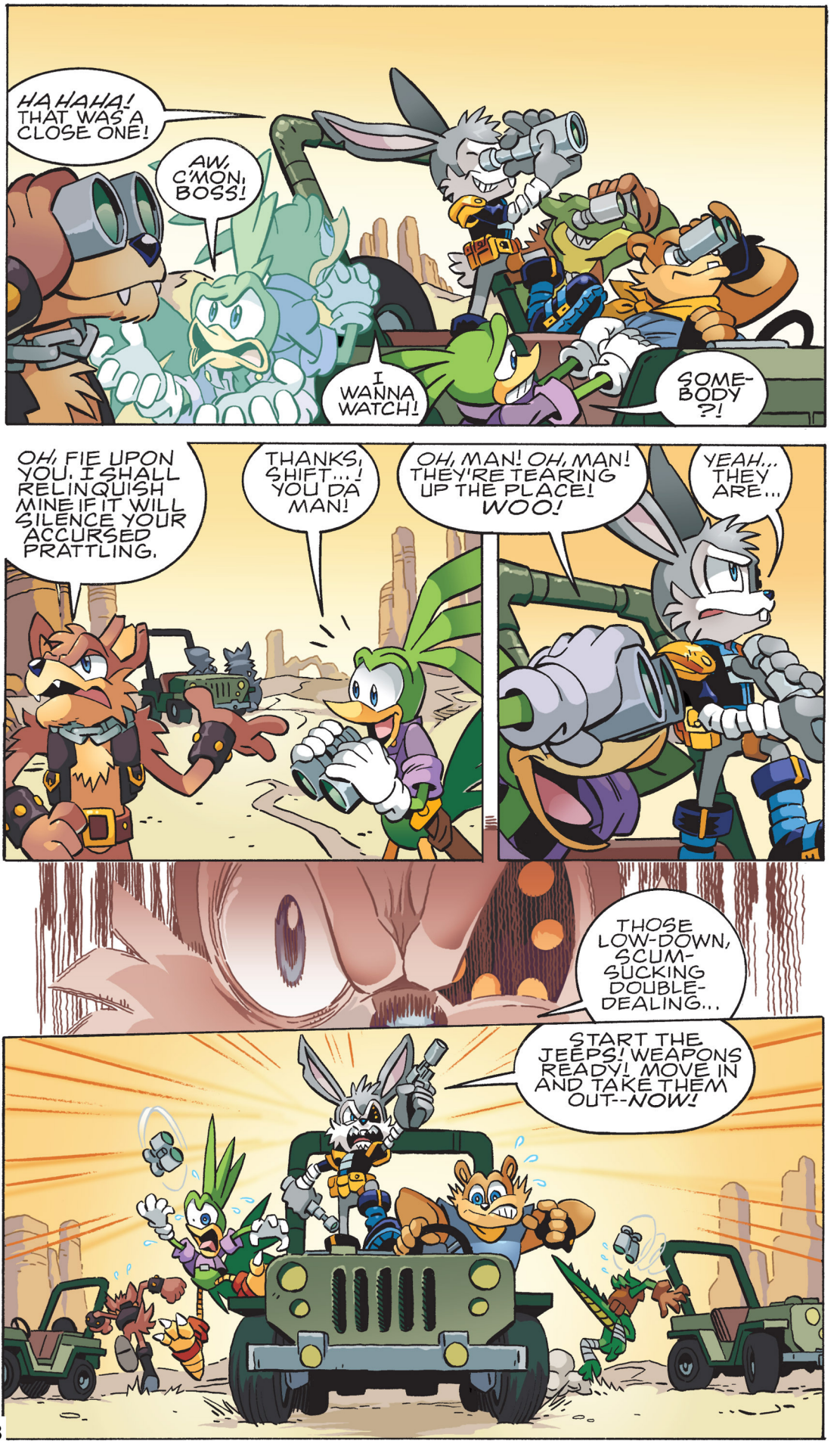

ERT!
AND YET YER RIGHT. WE CAIN'T LET THEM MAINTAIN THIS PLACE FOR THE DOC...
AND YOU'VE MADE YOUR POINT.
I WON'T LET THE SAND BLASTERS TAKE THIS PLACE AND LEAVE YOUR UNCLE OR HIS GROUP TO TAKE THE HEAT.
IT'D BE DIFFERENT IF IT WAS JUST US DOING THE SAME-OLD HERO STUFF...
YEAH, THEN THERE'D ONLY BE US TO BLAME...

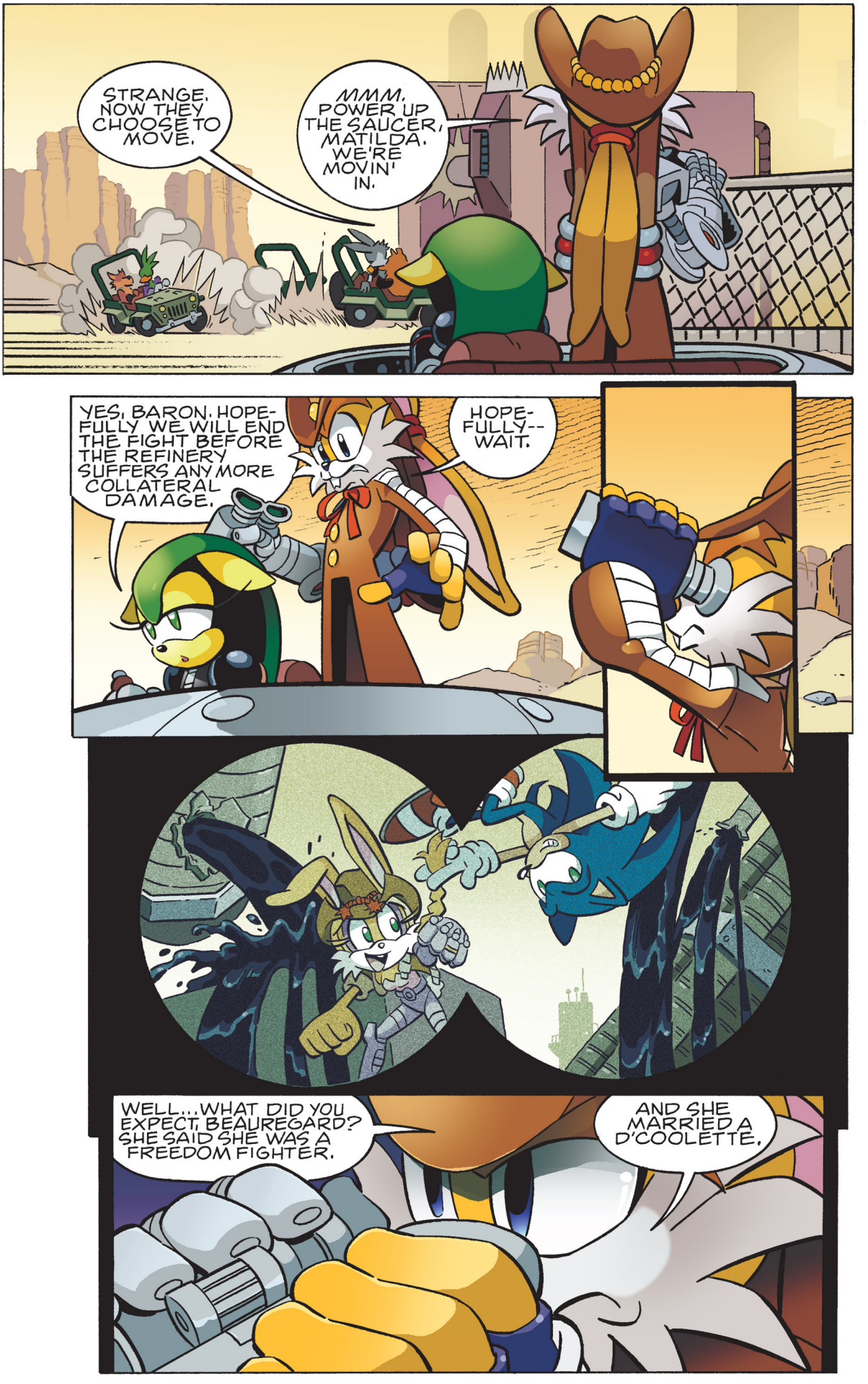

OH, DEAR! I HAVE BEEN THROWN WITH EXCESSIVE FORCE!


I'LL GET YOU BACK FOR THAT!

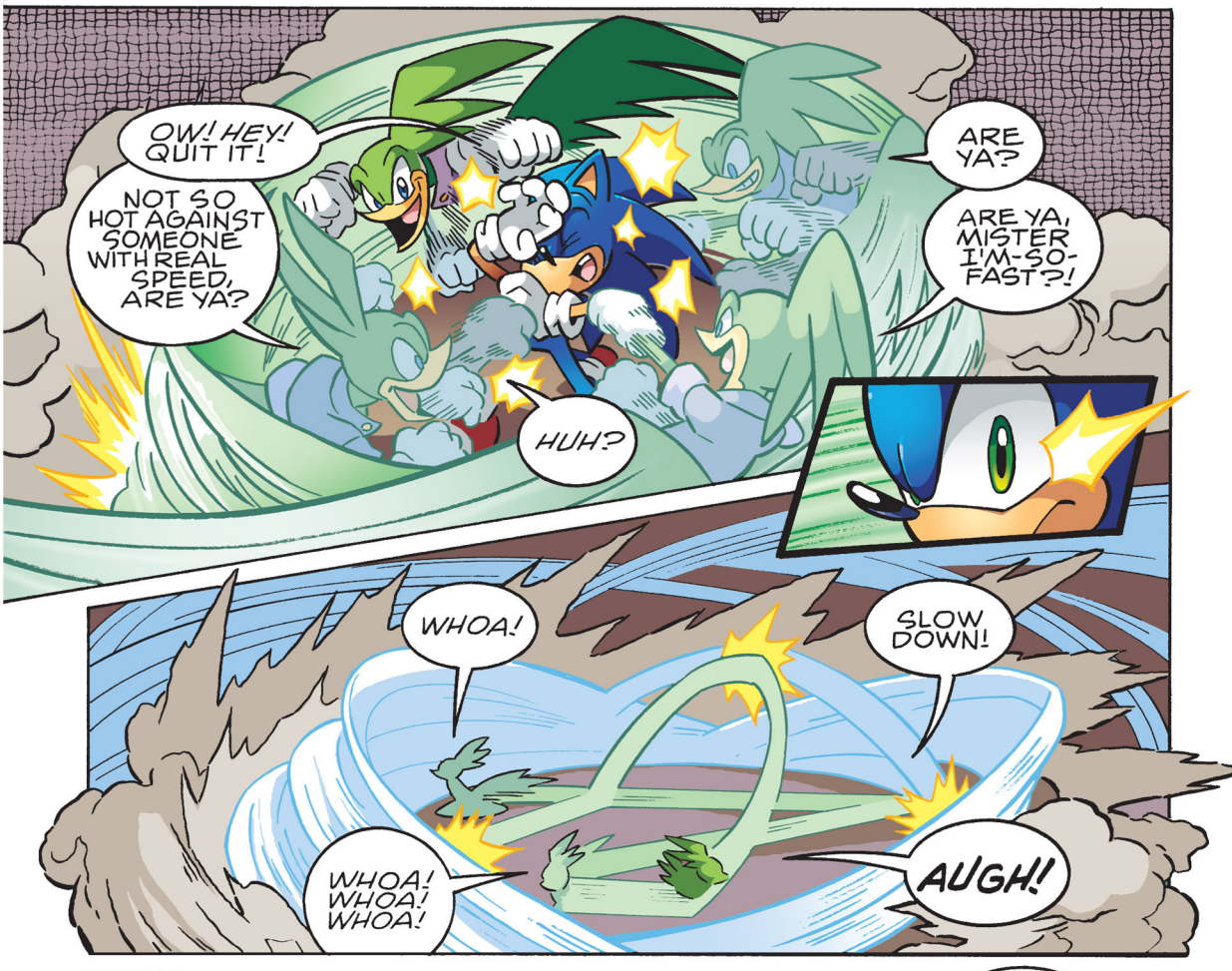
YER SUCH A HAM, SUGAH-HOG.

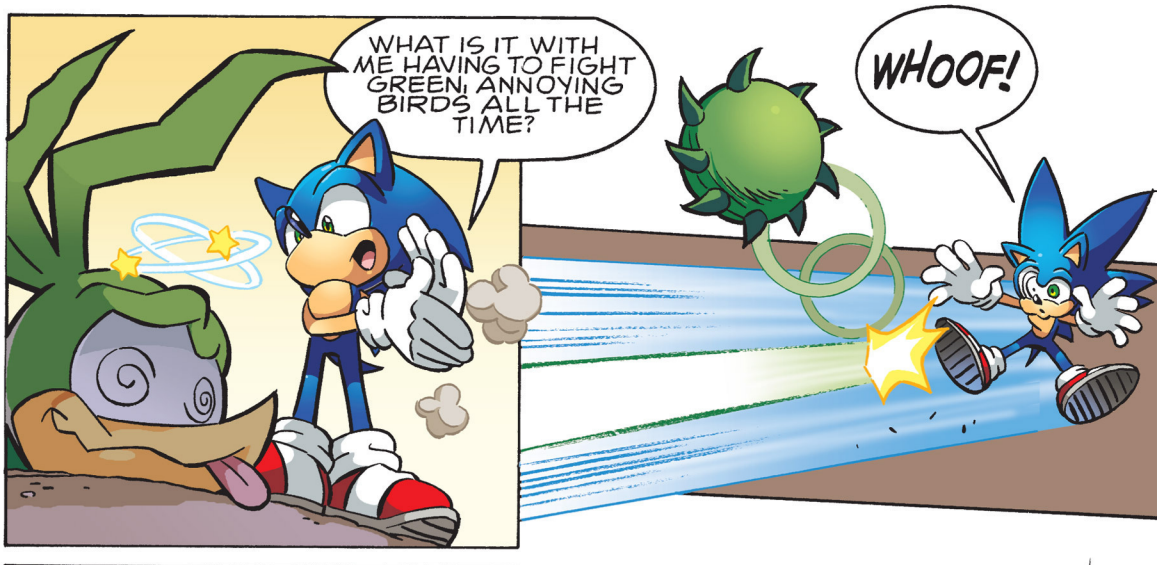
WHAM

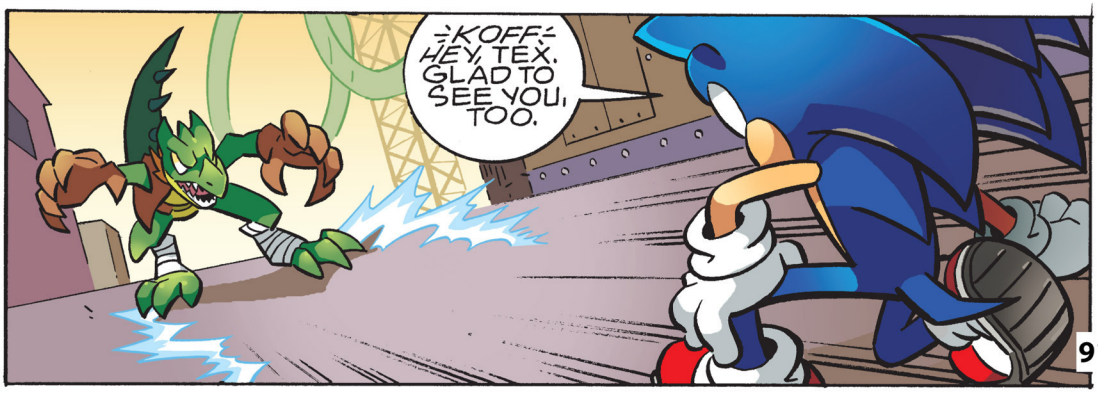

HA HAHA! THAT WAS A CLOSE ONE!
AW, C'MON, BOSS!
I WANNA WATCH!
SOME-BODY ?!
OH, FIE UPON YOU. I SHALL RELINQUISH MINE IF IT WILL SILENCE YOUR ACCURSED PRATTLING.
THANKS, SHIFT...! YOU DA MAN!
OH, MAN! OH, MAN! THEY'RE TEARING UP THE PLACE! WOO!
YEAH... THEY ARE...
THOSE LOW-DOWN, SCUM-SUCKING DOUBLE-DEALING...
START THE JEEPS! WEAPONS READY! MOVE IN AND TAKE THEM OUT--NOW!

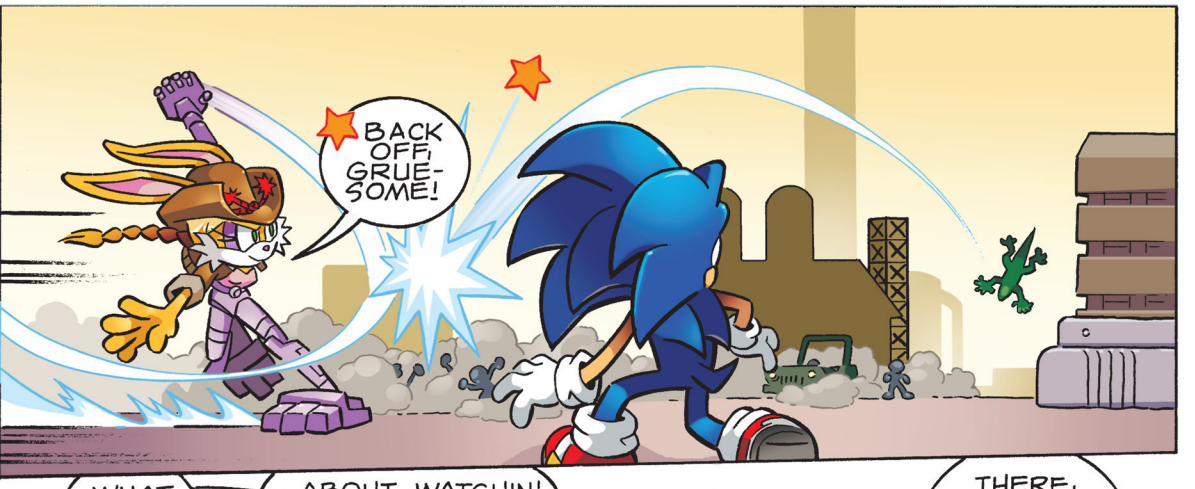

STRANGE. NOW THEY CHOOSE TO MOVE.
MMM. POWER UP THE SAUCER, MATILDA. WE'RE MOVIN' IN.
YES, BARON. HOPEFULLY WE WILL END THE FIGHT BEFORE THE REFINERY SUFFERS ANY MORE COLLATERAL DAMAGE.
HOPEFULLY-- WAIT.
WELL...WHAT DID YOU EXPECT, BEAUREGARD? SHE SAID SHE WAS A FREEDOM FIGHTER.
AND SHE MARRIED A D'COOLETTE.

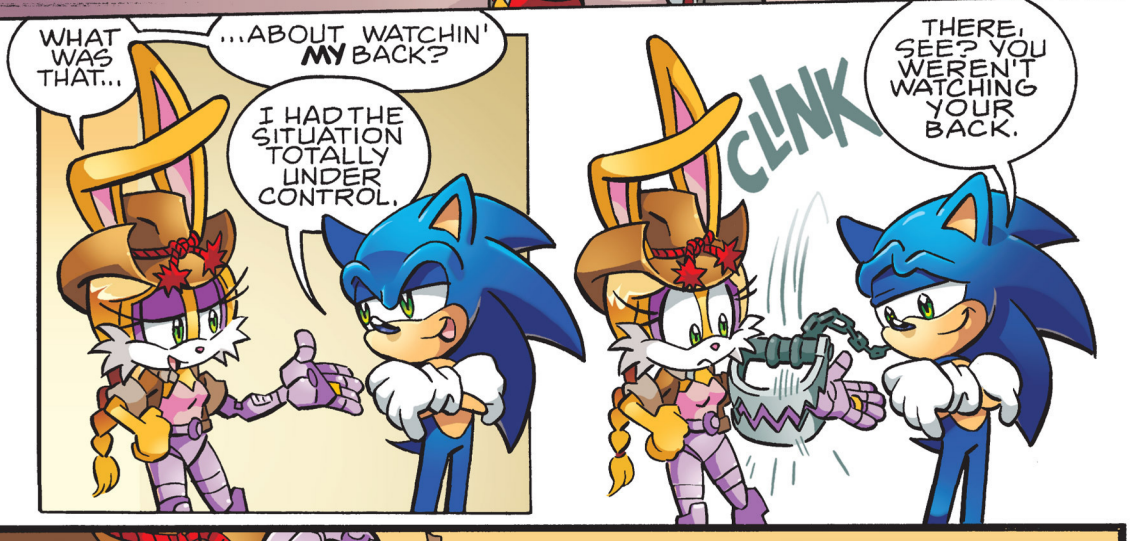
OOPS --LOOKS LIKE THE JIG IS UP, SUGAH-HOG.
AW, AND I WAS HAVING FUN FIGHTING YOU FOR MY VERY LIFE.
OH, SHUSH.
AH'M SURE YOU'LL BE BRAIN-WASHED AGAIN SOON ENOUGH, AND WE CAN TUSSLE S'MORE.
I SUPPOSE. BUT WHO KNOWS WHEN THE DOC WILL TROT OUT THAT TIRED SCHEME AGAIN?
ENOUGH JOSHIN', WE'VE GOTTA DO AS MUCH DAMAGE AS WE CAN BEFORE WE'RE OVER-WHELMED.
RIGHT. I'LL HANDLE THE JERKS BELOW. WATCH YOUR BACK OUT THERE.


OW! HEY! QUIT IT!
NOT SO HOT AGAINST SOMEONE WITH REAL SPEED, ARE YA?
HUH?
ARE YA?
ARE YA, MISTER I'M-SO-FAST?!
WHOA!
SLOW DOWN!
WHOA! WHOA! WHOA!
AUGH!


WHAT IS IT WITH ME HAVING TO FIGHT GREEN, ANNOYING BIRDS ALL THE TIME?
WHOOF!

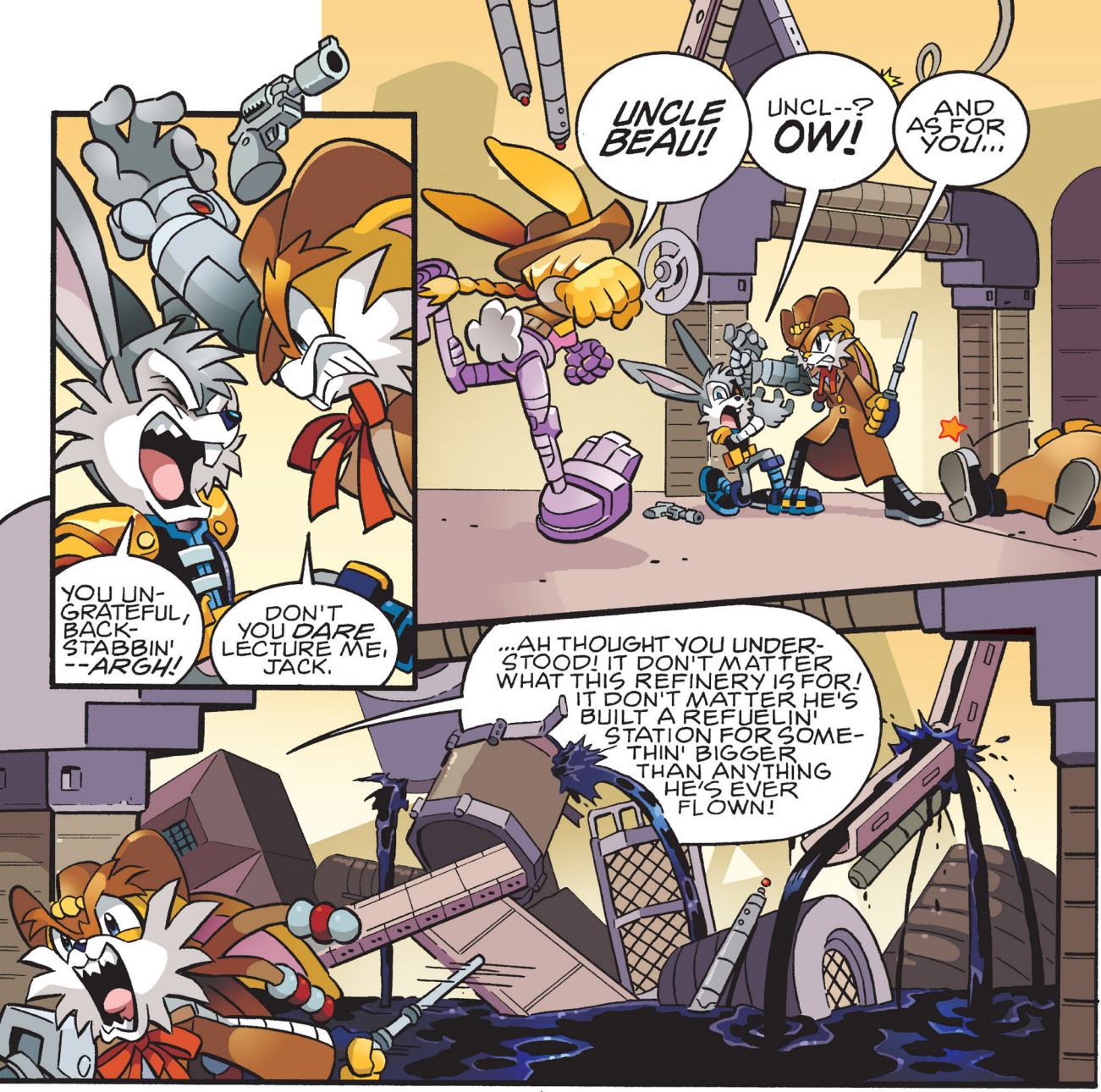

=KOFF= HEY, TEX. GLAD TO SEE YOU, TOO.


BACK OFF, GRUE-SOME!

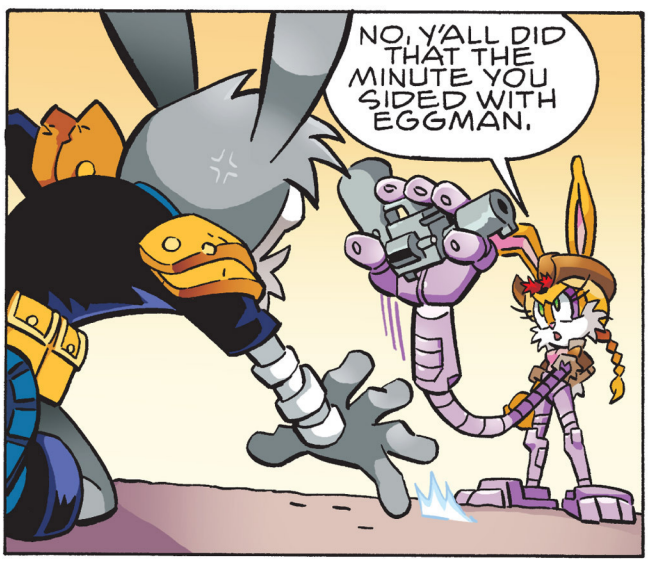

WHAT WAS THAT...
...ABOUT WATCHIN' MY BACK?
I HAD THE SITUATION TOTALLY UNDER CONTROL.
CLINK
THERE, SEE? YOU WEREN'T WATCHING YOUR BACK.

GET A LIFE, SHIFT.
CONFOUNDED CYBORGS AND THEIR METAL APPENDAGES!
BRUTE STRENGTH FOILING MY GENIUS!
SHOOT...
...AND I REALLY LIKED THIS JACKET, TOO.
NO WORRIES. I'M SURE ROSIE CAN FIX IT.

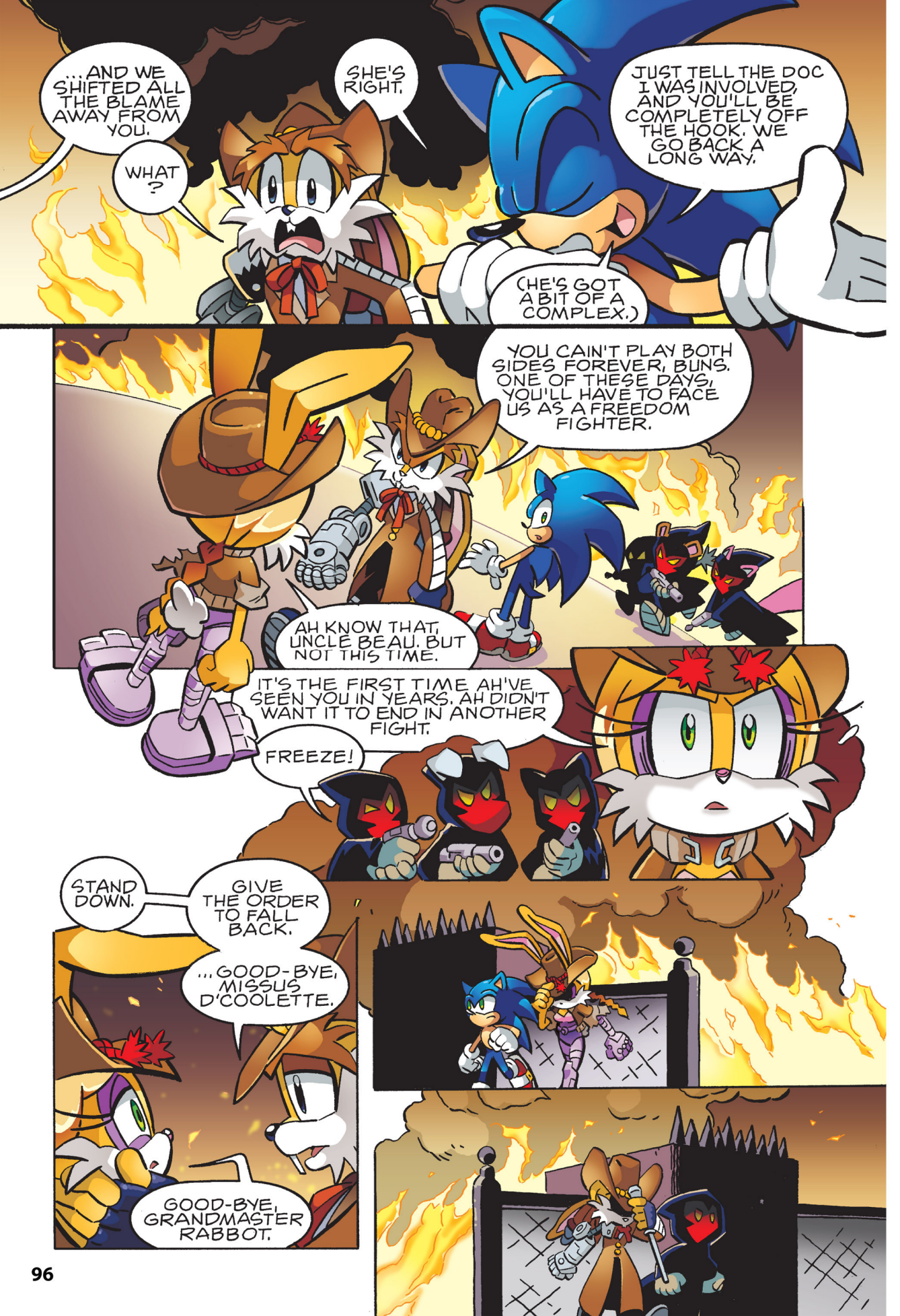
AVERY, IF YOU'VE GOT A SHOT, TAKE IT.
BUT BOSS, THIS COULD WRECK THE PLACE WORSE THAN THEY HAVE ALREADY.
IT'LL BE WORTH IT.
RIGHT, BOSS.
FWEEEE
THE BARON!
CRACK

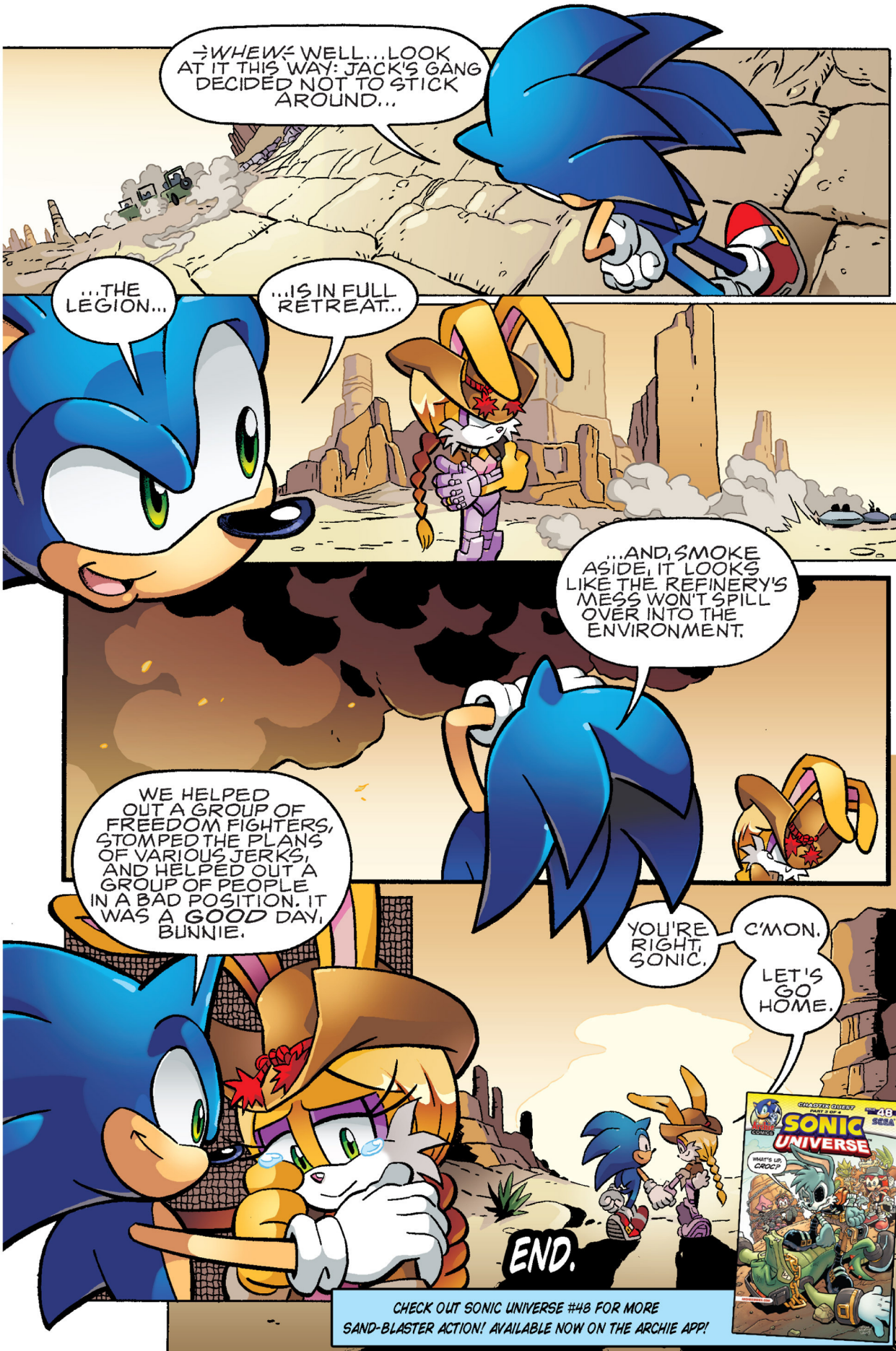

UNCLE BEAU!
UNCL--? OW!
AND AS FOR YOU...
YOU UN-GRATEFUL, BACK-STABBIN' --ARGH!
DON'T YOU DARE LECTURE ME, JACK.
...AH THOUGHT YOU UNDER-STOOD! IT DON'T MATTER WHAT THIS REFINERY IS FOR! IT DON'T MATTER HE'S BUILT A REFUELIN' STATION FOR SOME-THIN' BIGGER THAN ANYTHING HE'S EVER FLOWN!

WE NEED TO PROTECT AND RUN IT UNTIL HE SAYS OTHER-WISE. YOU'RE PUTTIN' THE LIVES OF MY ENTIRE CHAPTER AT RISK!


NO, Y'ALL DID THAT THE MINUTE YOU SIDED WITH EGGMAN.

YOU COLD-HEARTED--
SURPRISE!
FWEEEEEE
--GAH!
BWOOM!
NOW YOU'VE GONE AND DONE IT, MISSUS D'COOLETTE! YOU'VE DOOMED US ALL!
NO, AH HAVEN'T...
WE STOPPED THE SAND-BLASTERS FROM GETTIN' THIS PLACE. WE'VE STRUCK A BLOW TO EGGM AN'S PLANS...
...WHAT-EVER THEY ARE.

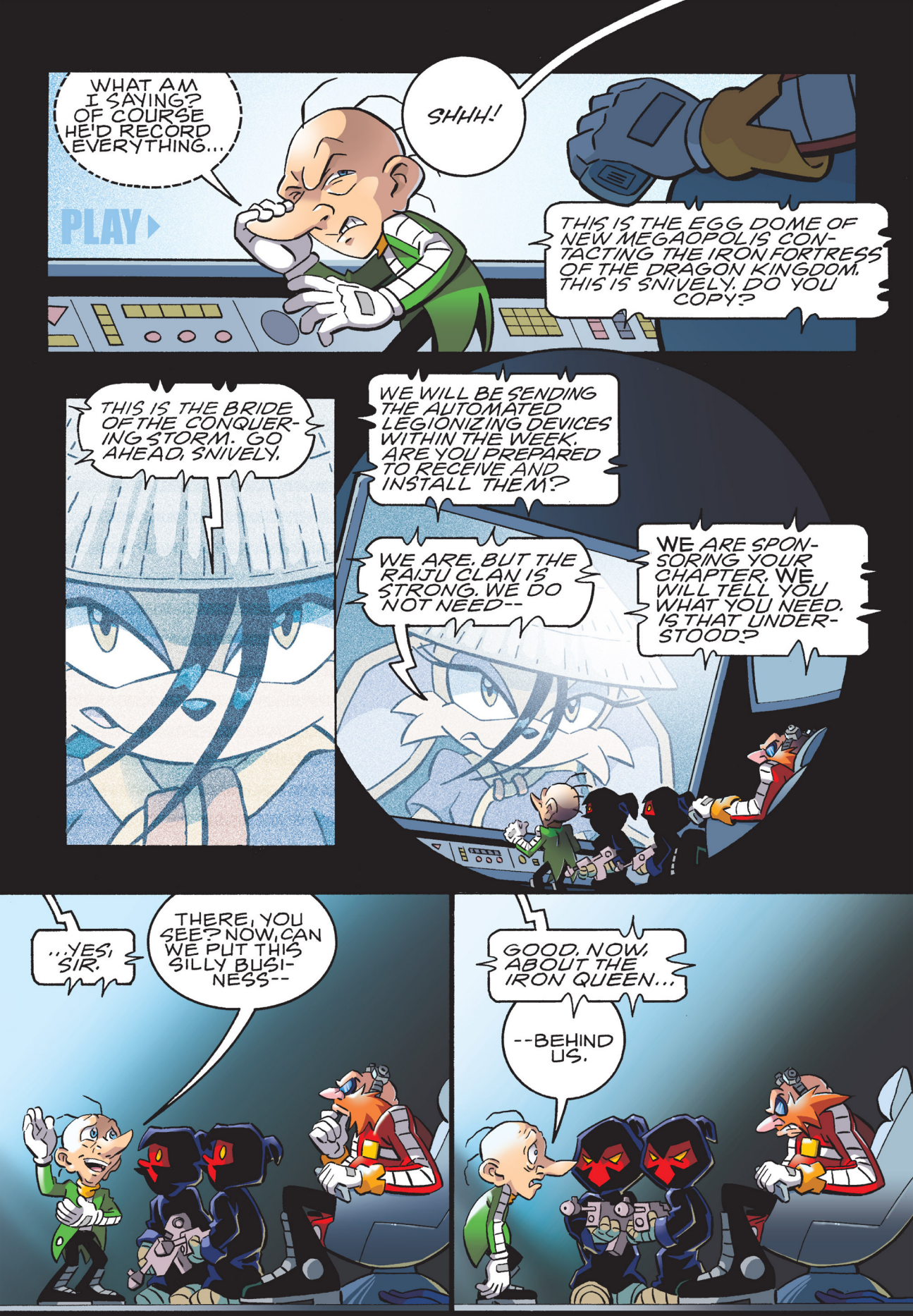

...AND WE SHIFTED ALL THE BLAME AWAY FROM YOU.
WHAT?
SHE'S RIGHT.
JUST TELL THE DOC I WAS INVOLVED, AND YOU'LL BE COMPLETELY OFF THE HOOK. WE GO BACK A LONG WAY.
(HE'S GOT A BIT OF A COMPLEX.)
YOU CAIN'T PLAY BOTH SIDES FOREVER, BUNS. ONE OF THESE DAYS, YOU'LL HAVE TO FACE US AS A FREEDOM FIGHTER.
AH KNOW THAT, UNCLE BEAU. BUT NOT THIS TIME.
IT'S THE FIRST TIME AH'VE SEEN YOU IN YEARS. AH DIDN'T WANT IT TO END IN ANOTHER FIGHT.
FREEZE!
STAND DOWN.
GIVE THE ORDER TO FALL BACK.
...GOOD-BYE, MISSUS D'COOLETTE.
GOOD-BYE, GRANDMASTER RABBOT.


=WHEW= WELL...LOOK AT IT THIS WAY: JACK'S GANG DECIDED NOT TO STICK AROUND...
...THE LEGION...
...IS IN FULL RETREAT...
...AND, SMOKE ASIDE, IT LOOKS LIKE THE REFINERY'S MESS WON'T SPILL OVER INTO THE ENVIRONMENT.
WE HELPED OUT A GROUP OF FREEDOM FIGHTERS, STOMPED THE PLANS OF VARIOUS JERKS, AND HELPED OUT A GROUP OF PEOPLE IN A BAD POSITION. IT WAS A GOOD DAY, BUNNIE.
YOU'RE RIGHT, SONIC.
C'MON. LET'S GO HOME.
END.
CHAOTIX QUEST PART 3 OF 4
#48
SEGA
SONIC UNIVERSE
WHAT'S UP, CROC?

CHECK OUT SONIC UNIVERSE #48 FOR MORE SAND-BLASTER ACTION! AVAILABLE NOW ON THE ARCHIE APP!

HINDSIGHT
STOP YOUR SHOVING! I'M NOT SOME PRISONER YOU GET TO KICK AROUND!
NOT YET, AT LEAST.
Writer: IAN FLYNN
Pencils: JAMAL PEPPERS
Inks: TERRY AUSTIN
Colors: MATT HERMS
Letters: JOHN WORKMAN
Y-YOU COULD'VE JUST SENT F-FOR ME...
I'M NOT HAPPY, SNIVELY. FOR ALL YOUR TREACHERY, YOU'VE NEVER BEEN *SLOPPY* ABOUT IT.
I-I-I HONESTLY DON'T KNOW WH-WHAT YOU'RE...

OH, PLEASE. I LET YOU HAVE YOUR FUN WITH REGINA. YOU GOT TO WEAR A CAPE AND EVERYTHING. BUT NOW THAT I'M BACK IN COMMAND, I EXPECT YOU TO FALL BACK INTO LINE!
B-B-BUT I HAVE!
YOU'VE MADE MULTIPLE CALLS TO THE DRAGON KINGDOM!
I'VE BEEN SETTING UP THE NEW CHAPTER OF YOUR ARMY!
YOU SEE, WITH THE IRON DOMINION THOROUGHLY DEFEATED, YOUR CONTROL OF THE REGION HAS BEEN BROKEN! I'VE BEEN CEMENTING YOUR HOLD ON THE WORLD, SIR!
WELL, LET'S JUST CHECK THE TAPES AND SEE IF THAT'S SO!
...TAPES?


WHAT AM I SAYING? OF COURSE HE'D RECORD EVERYTHING...
SHHH!
PLAY
THIS IS THE EGG DOME OF NEW MEGAOPOLIS CONTACTING THE IRON FORTRESS OF THE DRAGON KINGDOM. THIS IS SNIVELY. DO YOU COPY?
THIS IS THE BRIDE OF THE CONQUERING STORM. GO AHEAD, SNIVELY.
WE WILL BE SENDING THE AUTOMATED LEGIONIZING DEVICES WITHIN THE WEEK. ARE YOU PREPARED TO RECEIVE AND INSTALL THEM?
WE ARE. BUT THE RAIJU CLAN IS STRONG. WE DO NOT NEED--
WE ARE SPONSORING YOUR CHAPTER. WE WILL TELL YOU WHAT YOU NEED. IS THAT UNDERSTOOD?
...YES, SIR.
THERE, YOU SEE? NOW, CAN WE PUT THIS SILLY BUSINESS--
GOOD. NOW, ABOUT THE IRON QUEEN...
--BEHIND US.

SHE'S STILL IMPRISONED IN THE HEART OF THE FREE PEOPLE'S LANDS. THAT PRISON IS STILL MADE OF STONE, STILL KEPT CLEAR OF ANY ADVANCED MACHINERY OR ELECTRONICS, SIR.
VERY GOOD. THAT IS ALL THEN, SNIVELY, OVER AND OUT.
END TRANSMISSION
W-WELL? TH-THERE YOU HAVE IT! I'M VERIFYING ANY CHALLENGES TO YOUR POWER ARE TAKEN CARE OF! WH-WHAT'S TREACHEROUS ABOUT ANY OF THAT?
SAY IT'S OVER.
...WHAT?
SAY THAT YOUR LITTLE ROMANCE WITH THE IRON QUEEN IS OVER.
GIVE HER UP.
HERE. NOW.

SH-SHE'S... LOST TO ME. IT'S...OVER. I GIVE UP.
ATTABOY! YOU'RE ALL DISMISSED!
IT IS OVER. BUT NOT IN THE WAY YOU THINK.
CONTINUED IN SONIC UNIVERSE #37-40: "SCRAMBLED"!

SAND BLAST CITY FREEDOM FIGHTERS

PROFILE STATS:

First Appearance:
Sonic the Hedgehog #62-63

The Sand Blast City Freedom Fighters are a notorious band of liberators based out of **Sand Blast City** in the **Great Desert**. While they fight the **Eggman Empire,** they're notably vicious and use highly questionable means. To date they've attempted to imprison and harm **Sonic, Tails** and **Bunnie**. Their harsh treatment of the former **Robians** led to the creation of their local chapter of Eggman's army. Now they war with this faction for control of the Eggman Empire's **Oil Ocean Refinery**. While all citizens of Sand Blast City are considered members of the team, there is a concentrated core group of Sand-Blasters.

Members

Jack Rabbit (1) – The smooth-talking, vicious leader, Jack cares only for the well-being of his Freedom Fighters. The health and lives of all others don't register in his mind.

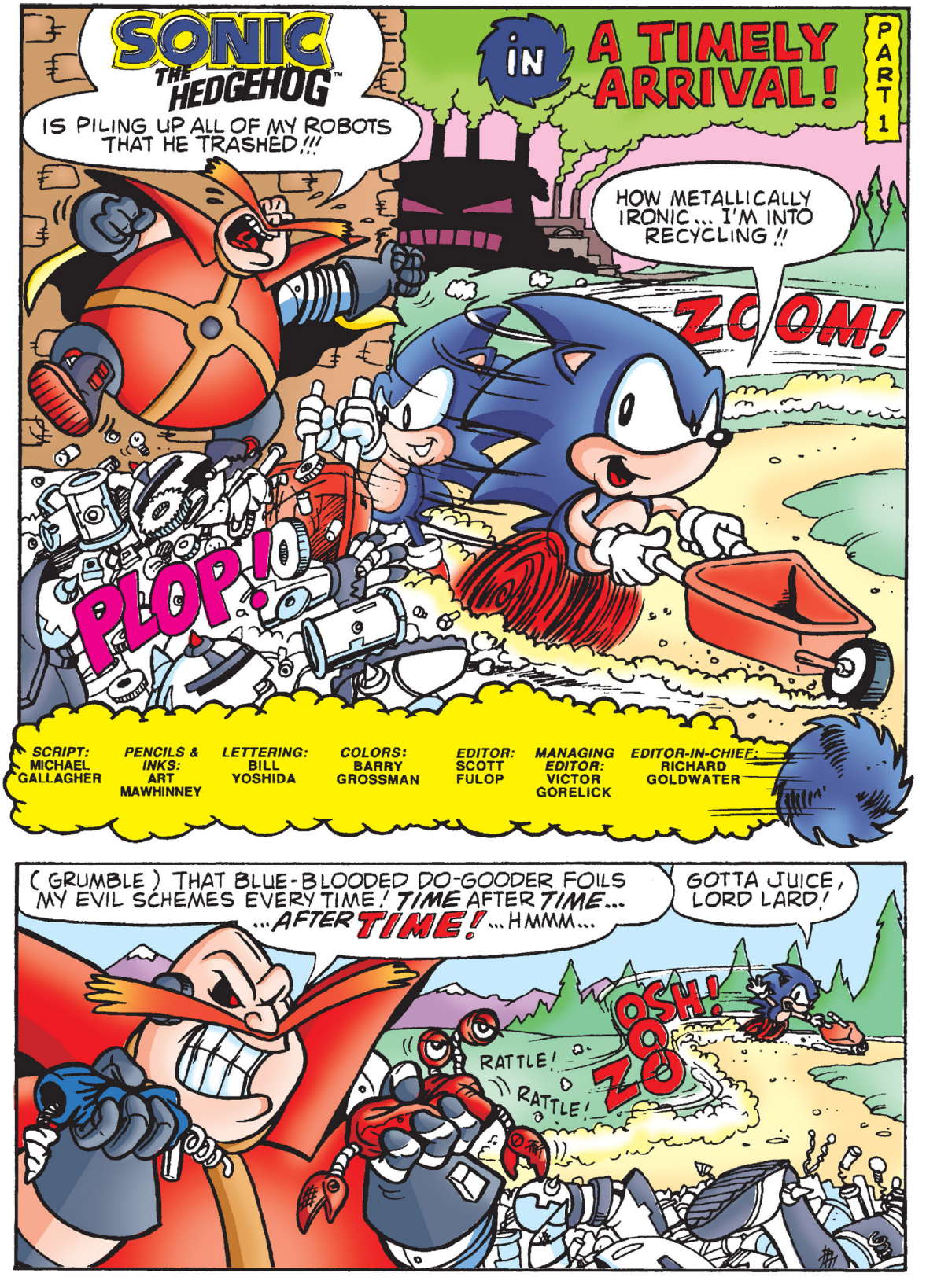
Jolt the Roadrunner (2) – Fast-talking, fast-thinking and fast-moving. Jolt has a nasty, haughty attitude but is also the punching-bag of the others' aggressions and frustrations.

Shift E. Wolf (3) – A shifty-eyed trapper and faux intellectual who seems to take a little too much joy in capturing the enemy. Due to his fixation on traps, however, he has difficulty in direct confrontations.

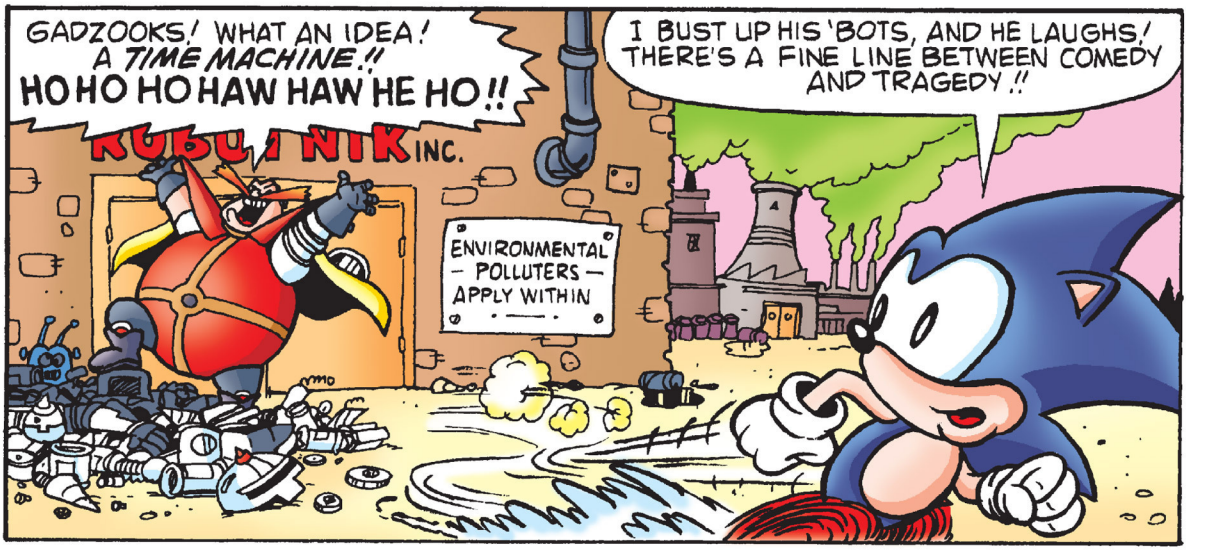
Tex the Lizard (4) – His thick, sharp skin makes him the hardiest of the team, but that's not the only reason he's hard to approach. A vicious fighter of few words, even **Jack** prefers not to get on his bad side.

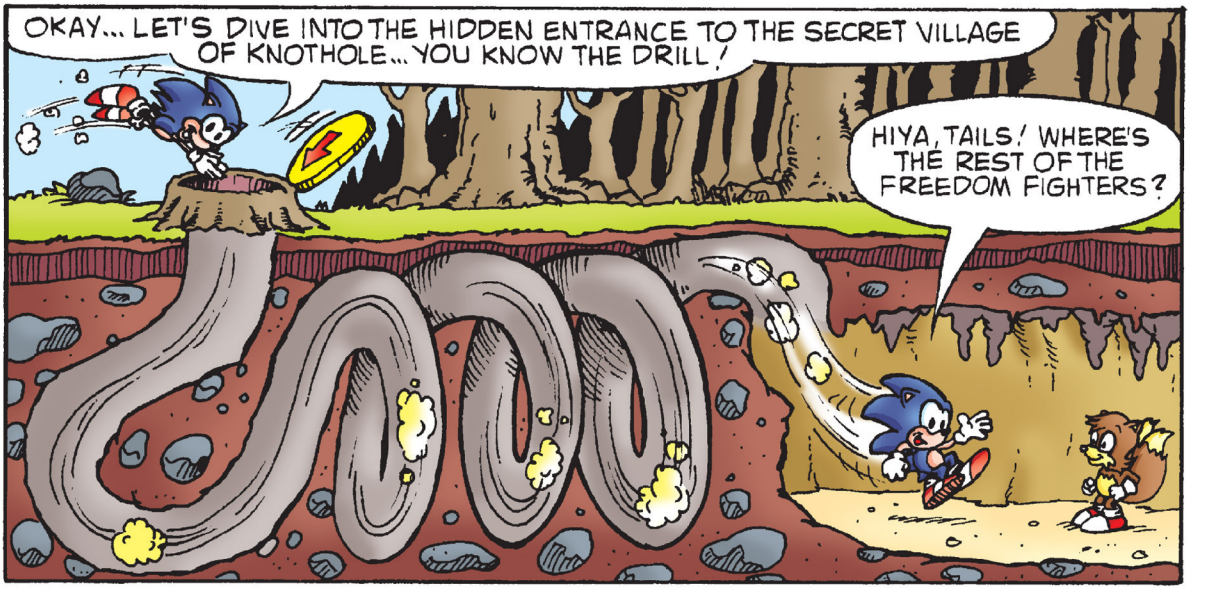
Avery the Bear (5) – A munitions expert with a dark sense of humor. He has some technical prowess – enough to craft weapons and keep the essentials of the city running.

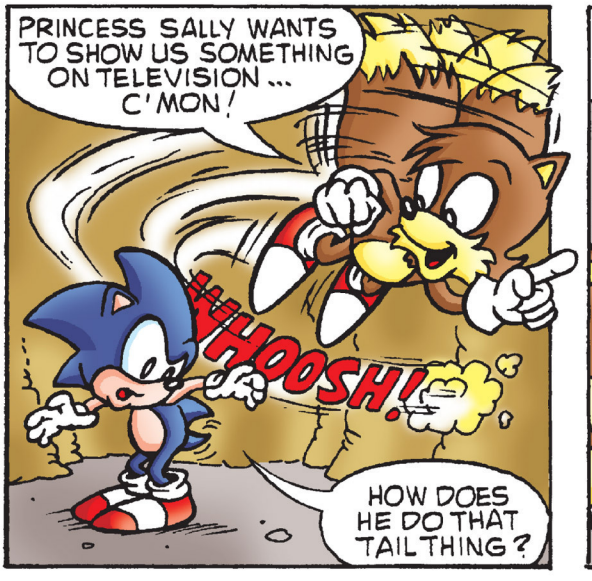
SONIC SUPER SPECIAL CLASSIC COMIC FEATURE

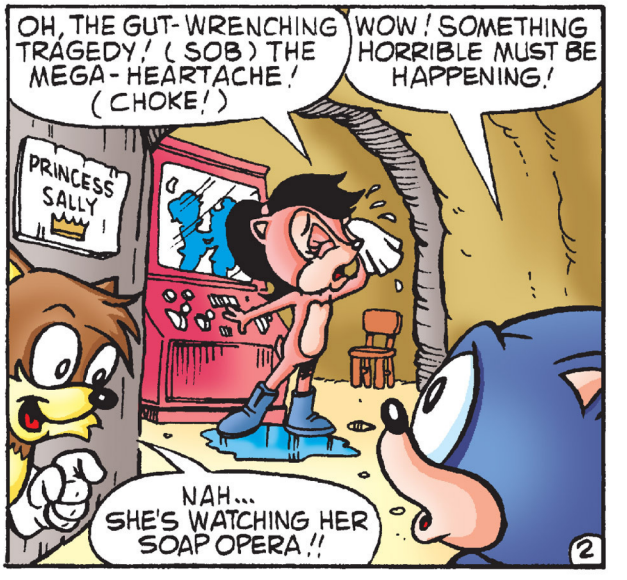

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG™
IS PILING UP ALL OF MY ROBOTS THAT HE TRASHED!!!
IN A TIMELY ARRIVAL!
PART 1
HOW METALLICALLY IRONIC... I'M INTO RECYCLING!!
ZOOM!
PLOP!
SCRIPT: MICHAEL GALLAGHER
PENCILS & INKS: ART MAWHINNEY
LETTERING: BILL YOSHIDA
COLORS: BARRY GROSSMAN
EDITOR: SCOTT FULOP
MANAGING EDITOR: VICTOR GORELICK
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: RICHARD GOLDWATER

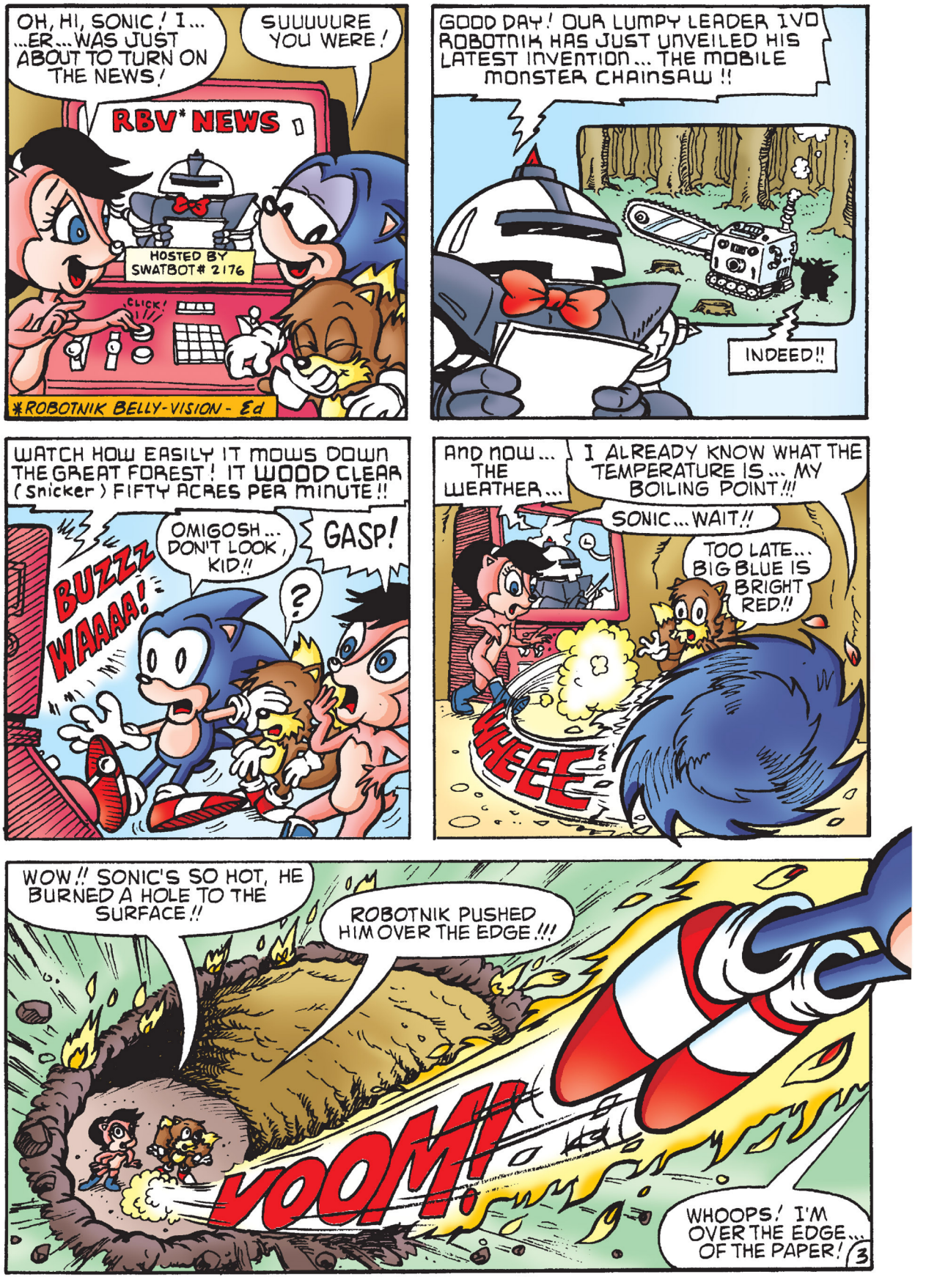
(GRUMBLE) THAT BLUE-BLOODED DO-GOODER FOILS MY EVIL SCHEMES EVERY TIME! TIME AFTER TIME... ...AFTER TIME!... HMMM...
GOTTA JUICE, LORD LARD!
RATTLE!
RATTLE!
ZOOSH!

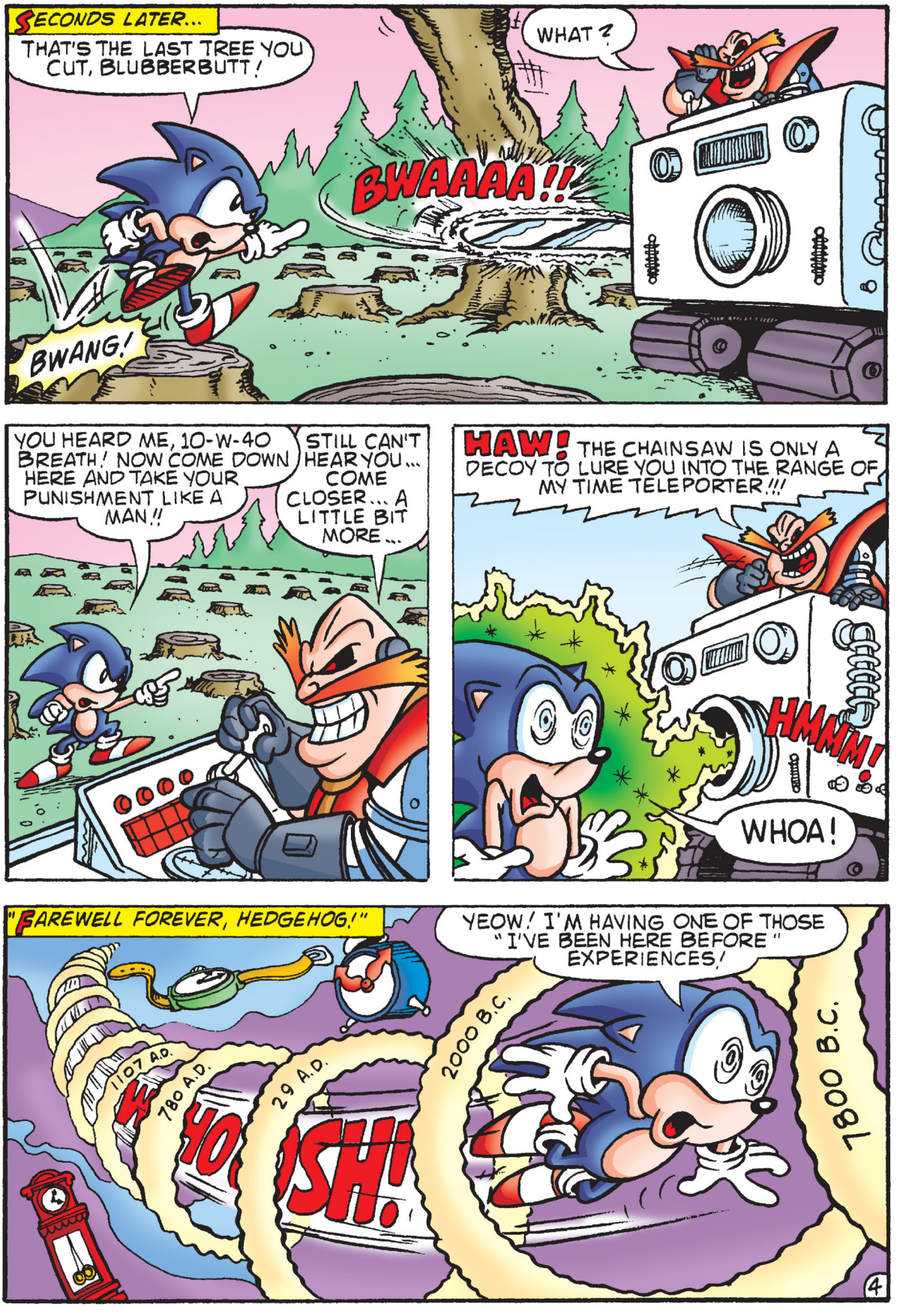

GADZOOKS! WHAT AN IDEA! A TIME MACHINE!! HO HO HO HAW HAW HE HO!!
INC.
ENVIRONMENTAL — POLLUTERS — APPLY WITHIN
I BUST UP HIS 'BOTS, AND HE LAUGHS! THERE'S A FINE LINE BETWEEN COMEDY AND TRAGEDY!!

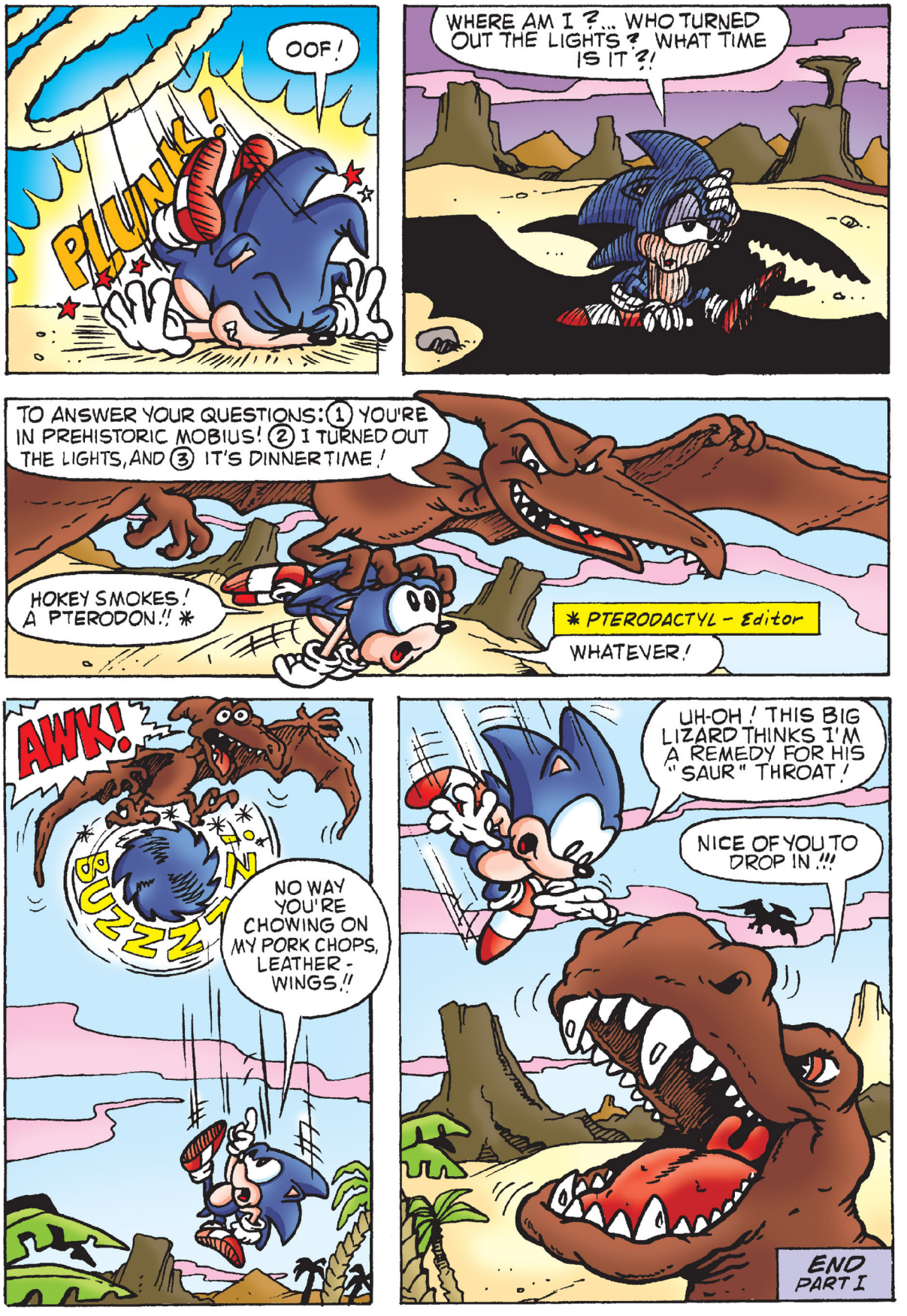

OKAY... LET'S DIVE INTO THE HIDDEN ENTRANCE TO THE SECRET VILLAGE OF KNOTHOLE... YOU KNOW THE DRILL!
HIYA, TAILS! WHERE'S THE REST OF THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS?


PRINCESS SALLY WANTS TO SHOW US SOMETHING ON TELEVISION ... C'MON!
HOOSH!
HOW DOES HE DO THAT TAILTHING?

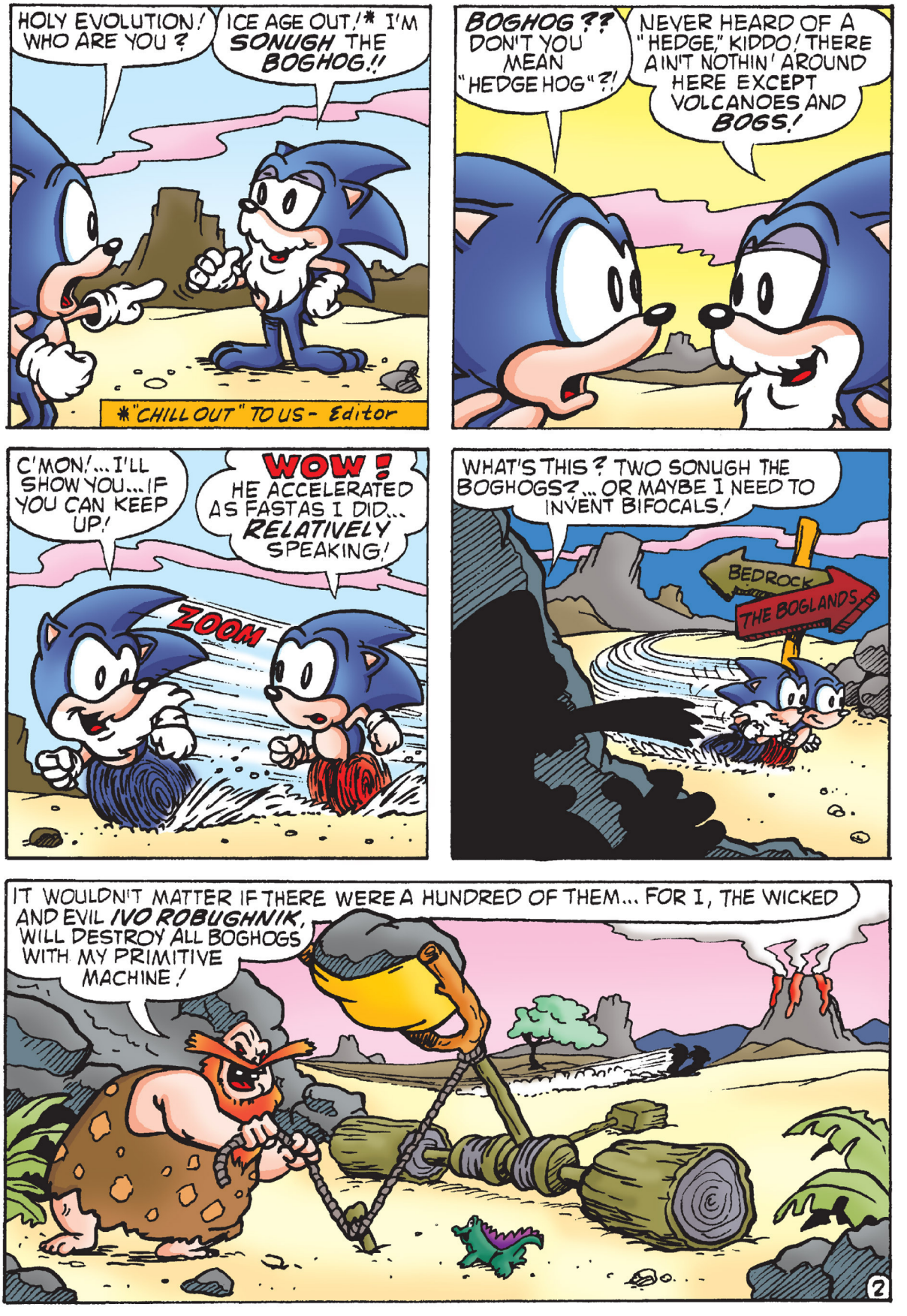

OH, THE GUT-WRENCHING TRAGEDY! (SOB) THE MEGA-HEARTACHE! (CHOKE!)
WOW! SOMETHING HORRIBLE MUST BE HAPPENING!
PRINCESS SALLY
NAH... SHE'S WATCHING HER SOAP OPERA!!
2

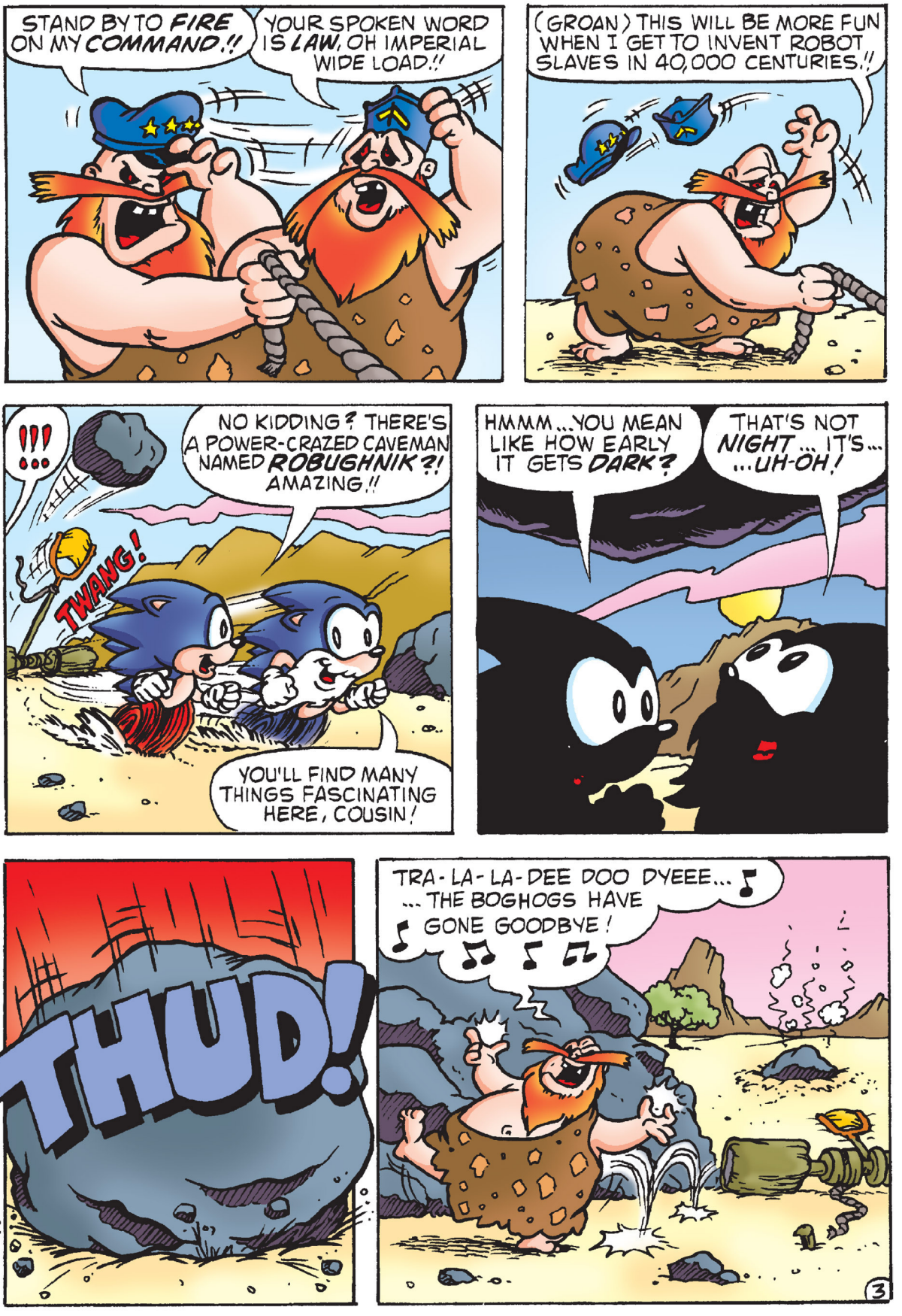

OH, HI, SONIC! I... ...ER... WAS JUST ABOUT TO TURN ON THE NEWS!
SUUUUURE YOU WERE!
RBV* NEWS
HOSTED BY SWATBOT# 2176
CLICK!
*ROBOTNIK BELLY-VISION - Ed
GOOD DAY! OUR LUMPY LEADER IVO ROBOTNIK HAS JUST UNVEILED HIS LATEST INVENTION... THE MOBILE MONSTER CHAINSAW !!
INDEED!!
WATCH HOW EASILY IT MOWS DOWN THE GREAT FOREST! IT WOOD CLEAR (Snicker) FIFTY ACRES PER MINUTE!!
BUZZZ
WAAAA!
OMIGOSH... DON'T LOOK, KID!!
?
GASP!
AND NOW... THE WEATHER...
I ALREADY KNOW WHAT THE TEMPERATURE IS... MY BOILING POINT!!!
SONIC... WAIT!!
TOO LATE... BIG BLUE IS BRIGHT RED!!
WHEEE
WOW!! SONIC'S SO HOT, HE BURNED A HOLE TO THE SURFACE!!
ROBOTNIK PUSHED HIM OVER THE EDGE!!!
YOOM!!
WHOOPS! I'M OVER THE EDGE... OF THE PAPER!
3

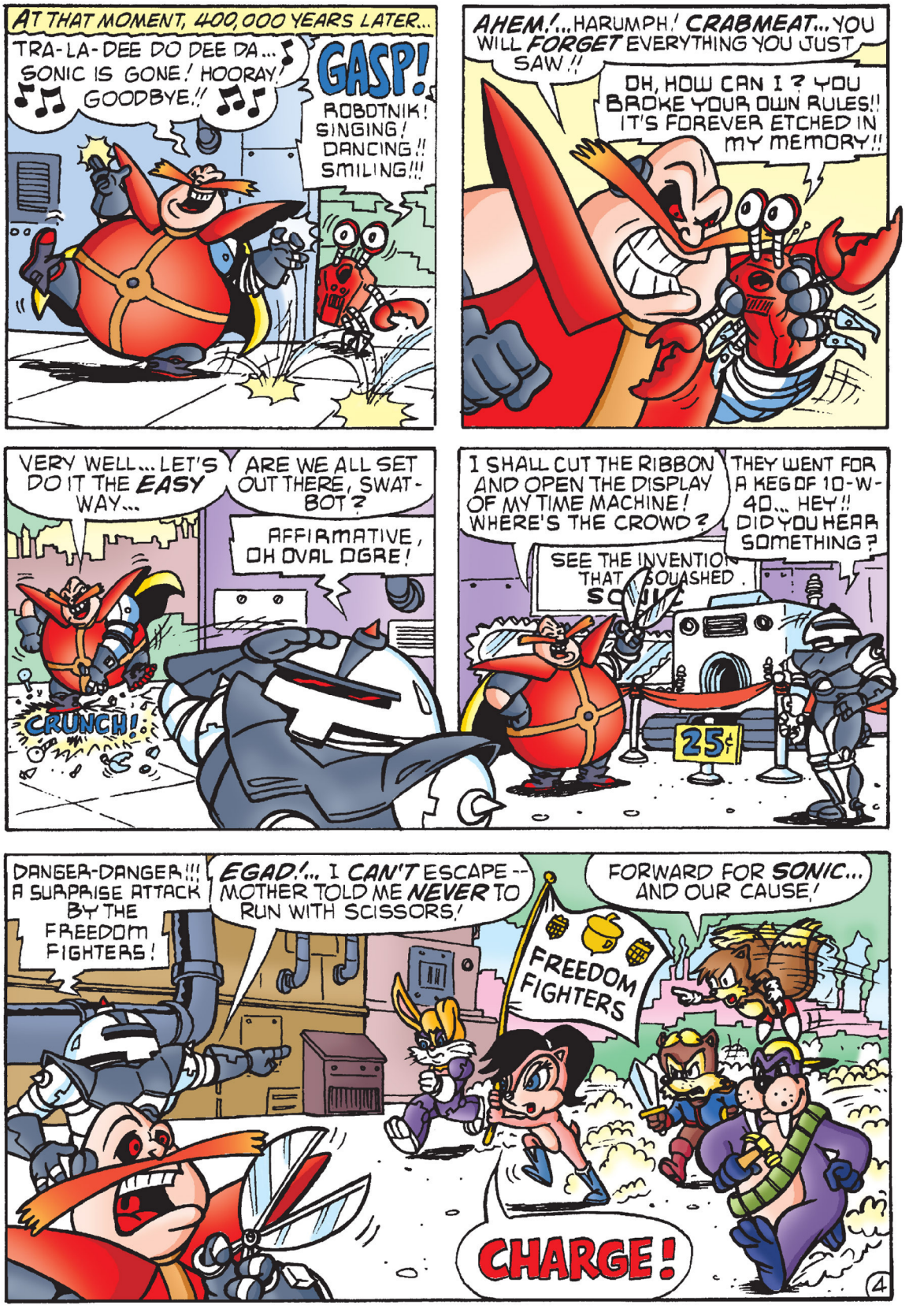

SECONDS LATER...
THAT'S THE LAST TREE YOU CUT, BLUBBERBUTT!
WHAT?
BWAAAA!!
BWANG!
YOU HEARD ME, 10-W-40 BREATH! NOW COME DOWN HERE AND TAKE YOUR PUNISHMENT LIKE A MAN!!
STILL CAN'T HEAR YOU... COME CLOSER... A LITTLE BIT MORE...
HAW! THE CHAINSAW IS ONLY A DECOY TO LURE YOU INTO THE RANGE OF MY TIME TELEPORTER!!!
HMMM!
WHOA!
"FAREWELL FOREVER, HEDGEHOG!"
YEOW! I'M HAVING ONE OF THOSE "I'VE BEEN HERE BEFORE" EXPERIENCES!
1107 A.D.
780 A.D.
29 A.D.
2000 B.C.
7800 B.C.
SH!
4

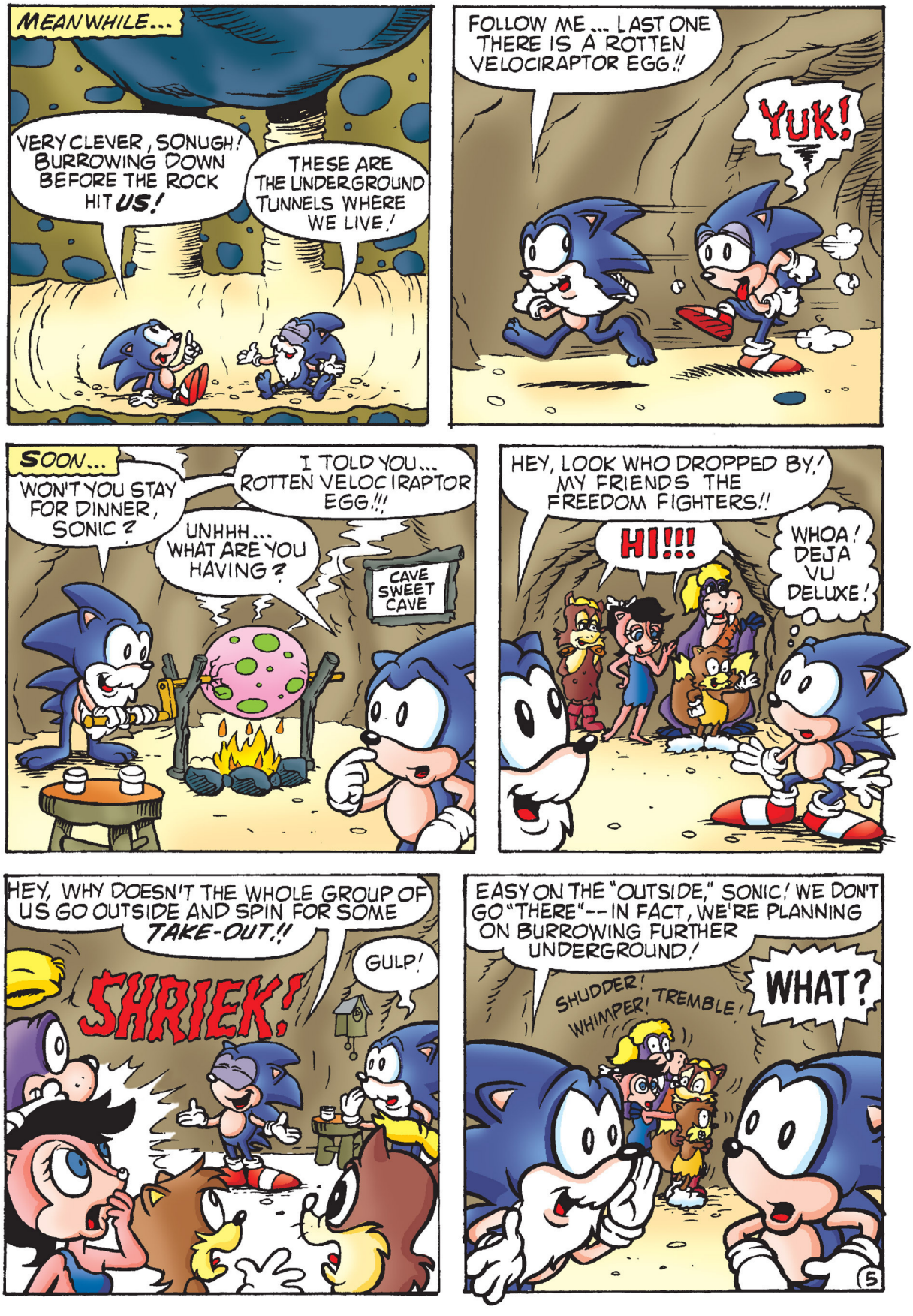

OOF!
PLUNK!
WHERE AM I?... WHO TURNED OUT THE LIGHTS? WHAT TIME IS IT?!
TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS: (1) YOU'RE IN PREHISTORIC MOBIUS! (2) I TURNED OUT THE LIGHTS, AND (3) IT'S DINNERTIME!
HOKEY SMOKES! A PTERODON!! *
* PTERODACTYL - Editor
WHATEVER!
AWK!
BUZZZ
NO WAY YOU'RE CHOWING ON MY PORK CHOPS, LEATHER-WINGS!!
UH-OH! THIS BIG LIZARD THINKS I'M A REMEDY FOR HIS "SAUR" THROAT!
NICE OF YOU TO DROP IN!!!
END PART I

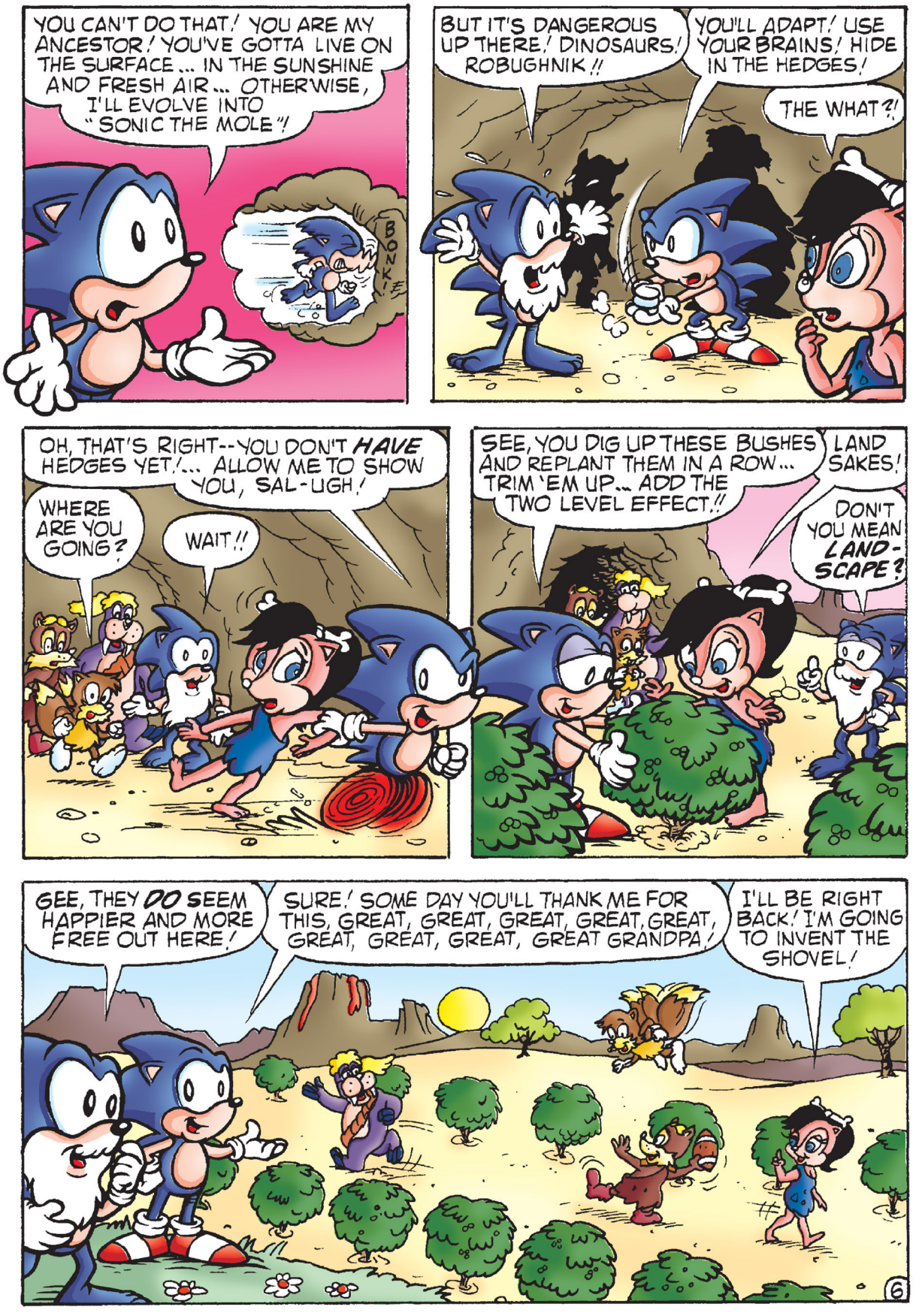
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG™
in
A TIMELY ARRIVAL!
PART II
... IS NOT ABOUT TO GO DOWN IN HISTORY AS A DINO-SNACK!!
GHURGH!
ZING!
CRACK!
SNAP!
POP!
TWANG
CRACKLE!
I HOPE YOUR MEDICAL INSURANCE COVERS DENTAL!
(SIGH) AND THEY WONDER WHY WE BECAME EXTINCT!...
NICE WORK, CUZ!
GASP!

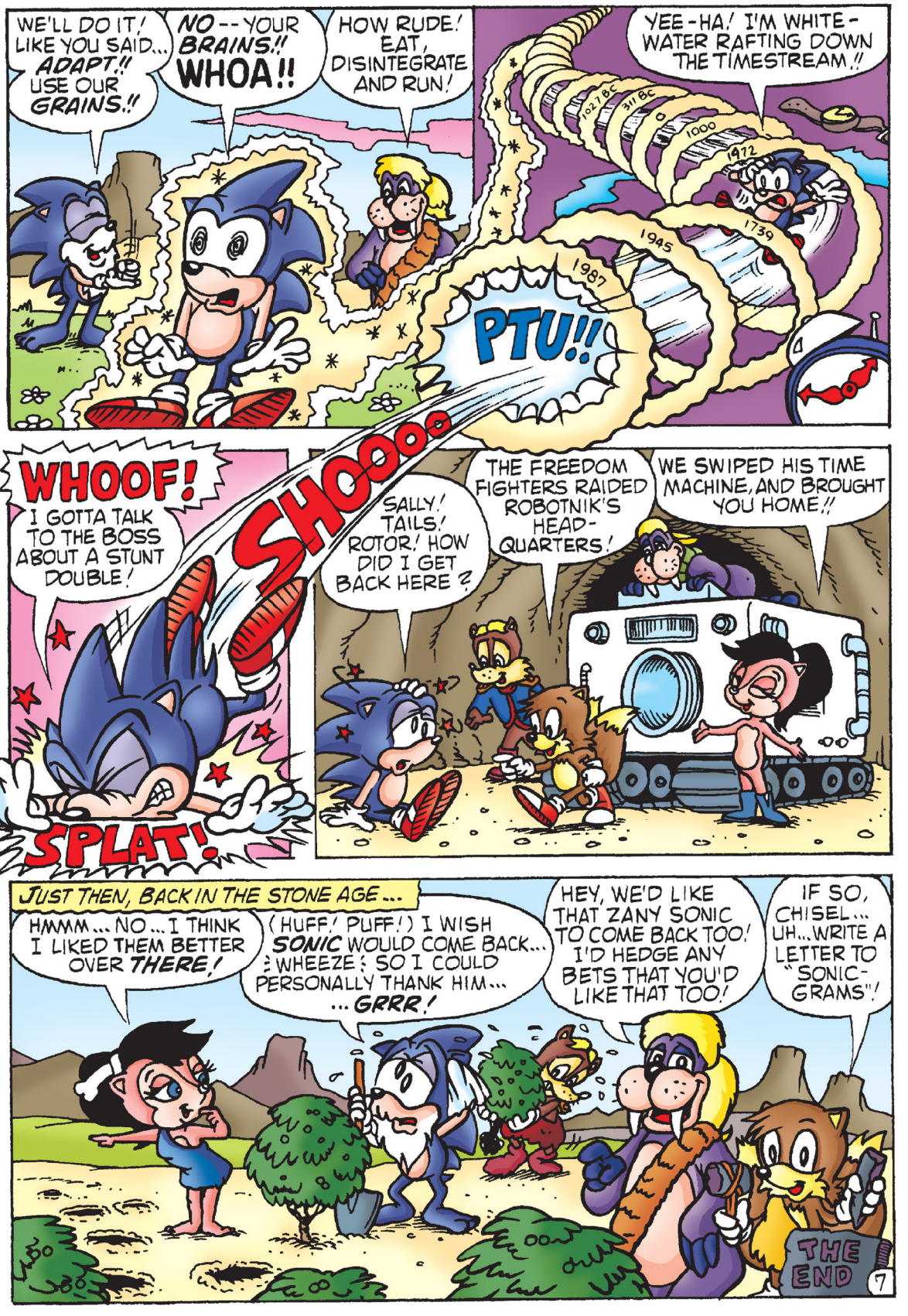

HOLY EVOLUTION! WHO ARE YOU?
ICE AGE OUT!* I'M SONUGH THE BOGHOG!!
*"CHILL OUT" TO US - Editor
BOGHOG?? DON'T YOU MEAN "HEDGE HOG"?!
NEVER HEARD OF A "HEDGE," KIDDO! THERE AIN'T NOTHIN' AROUND HERE EXCEPT VOLCANOES AND BOGS!
C'MON!... I'LL SHOW YOU... IF YOU CAN KEEP UP!
WOW! HE ACCELERATED AS FASTAS I DID... RELATIVELY SPEAKING!
ZOOM
WHAT'S THIS? TWO SONUGH THE BOGHOGS?... OR MAYBE I NEED TO INVENT BIFOCALS!
BEDROCK
THE BOGLANDS
IT WOULDN'T MATTER IF THERE WERE A HUNDRED OF THEM... FOR I, THE WICKED AND EVIL IVO ROBUGHNIK, WILL DESTROY ALL BOGHOGS WITH MY PRIMITIVE MACHINE!
2


STAND BY TO FIRE ON MY COMMAND.!!
YOUR SPOKEN WORD IS LAW, OH IMPERIAL WIDE LOAD!!
(GROAN) THIS WILL BE MORE FUN WHEN I GET TO INVENT ROBOT SLAVES IN 40,000 CENTURIES.!!
!!!
...
NO KIDDING? THERE'S A POWER-CRAZED CAVEMAN NAMED ROBUGHNIK?! AMAZING.!!
TWANG!
YOU'LL FIND MANY THINGS FASCINATING HERE, COUSIN!
HMMM...YOU MEAN LIKE HOW EARLY IT GETS DARK?
THAT'S NOT NIGHT... IT'S... ...UH-OH!
THUD!
TRA-LA-LA-DEE DOO DYEEE... ... THE BOGHOGS HAVE GONE GOODBYE!
3

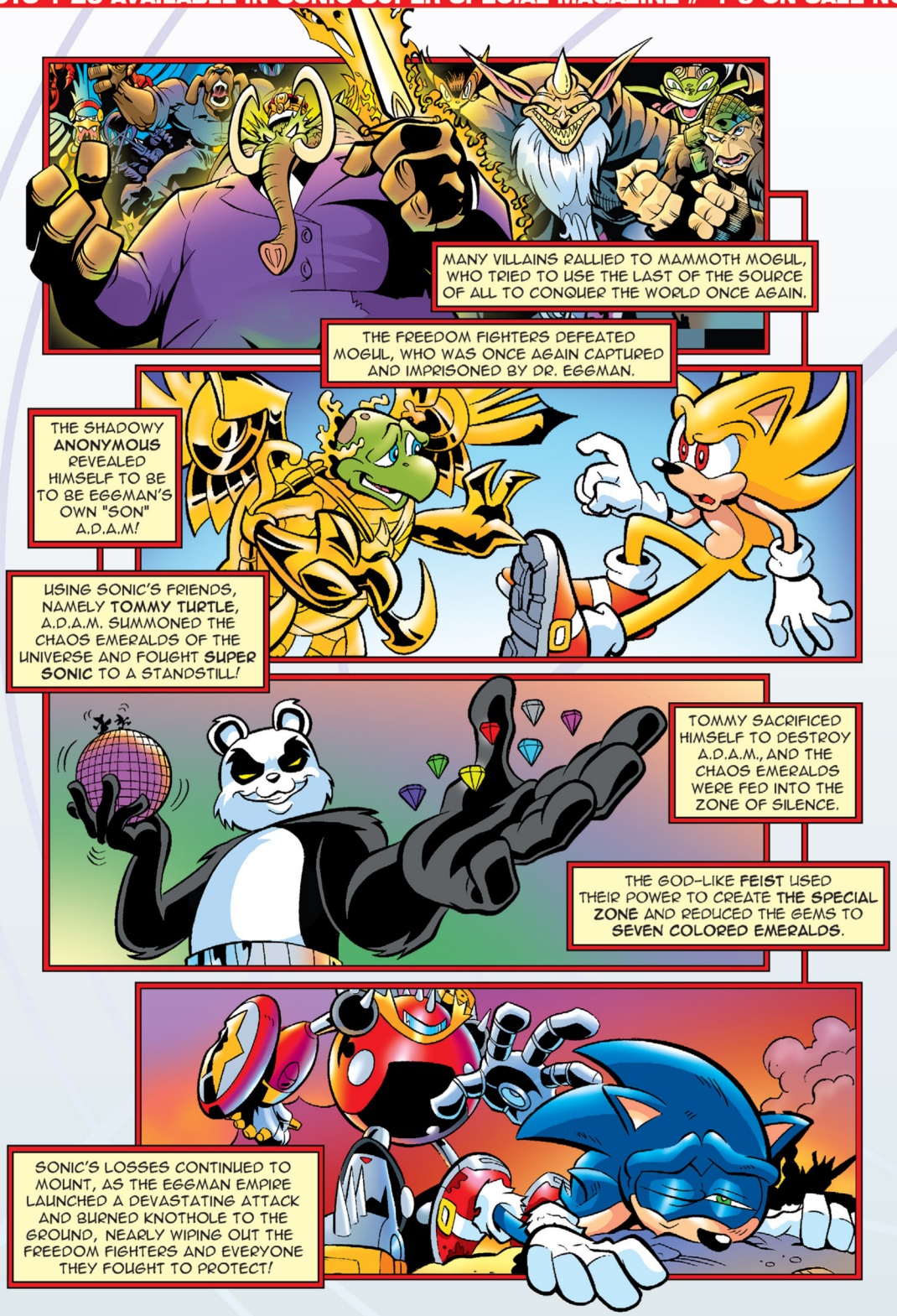

AT THAT MOMENT, 400,000 YEARS LATER...
TRA-LA-DEE DO DEE DA... SONIC IS GONE! HOORAY! GOODBYE!!
GASP!
ROBOTNIK! SINGING! DANCING!! SMILING!!!
AHEM!... HARUMPH! CRABMEAT... YOU WILL FORGET EVERYTHING YOU JUST SAW!!
OH, HOW CAN I? YOU BROKE YOUR OWN RULES!! IT'S FOREVER ETCHED IN MY MEMORY!!
VERY WELL... LET'S DO IT THE EASY WAY...
ARE WE ALL SET OUT THERE, SWAT-BOT?
AFFIRMATIVE, OH OVAL OGRE!
CRUNCH!
I SHALL CUT THE RIBBON AND OPEN THE DISPLAY OF MY TIME MACHINE! WHERE'S THE CROWD?
THEY WENT FOR A KEG OF 10-W-40... HEY!! DID YOU HEAR SOMETHING?
SEE THE INVENTIO THAT SQUASHED
25¢
DANGER-DANGER!!! A SURPRISE ATTACK BY THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS!
EGAD!... I CAN'T ESCAPE -- MOTHER TOLD ME NEVER TO RUN WITH SCISSORS!
FREEDOM FIGHTERS
FORWARD FOR SONIC... AND OUR CAUSE!
CHARGE!
4

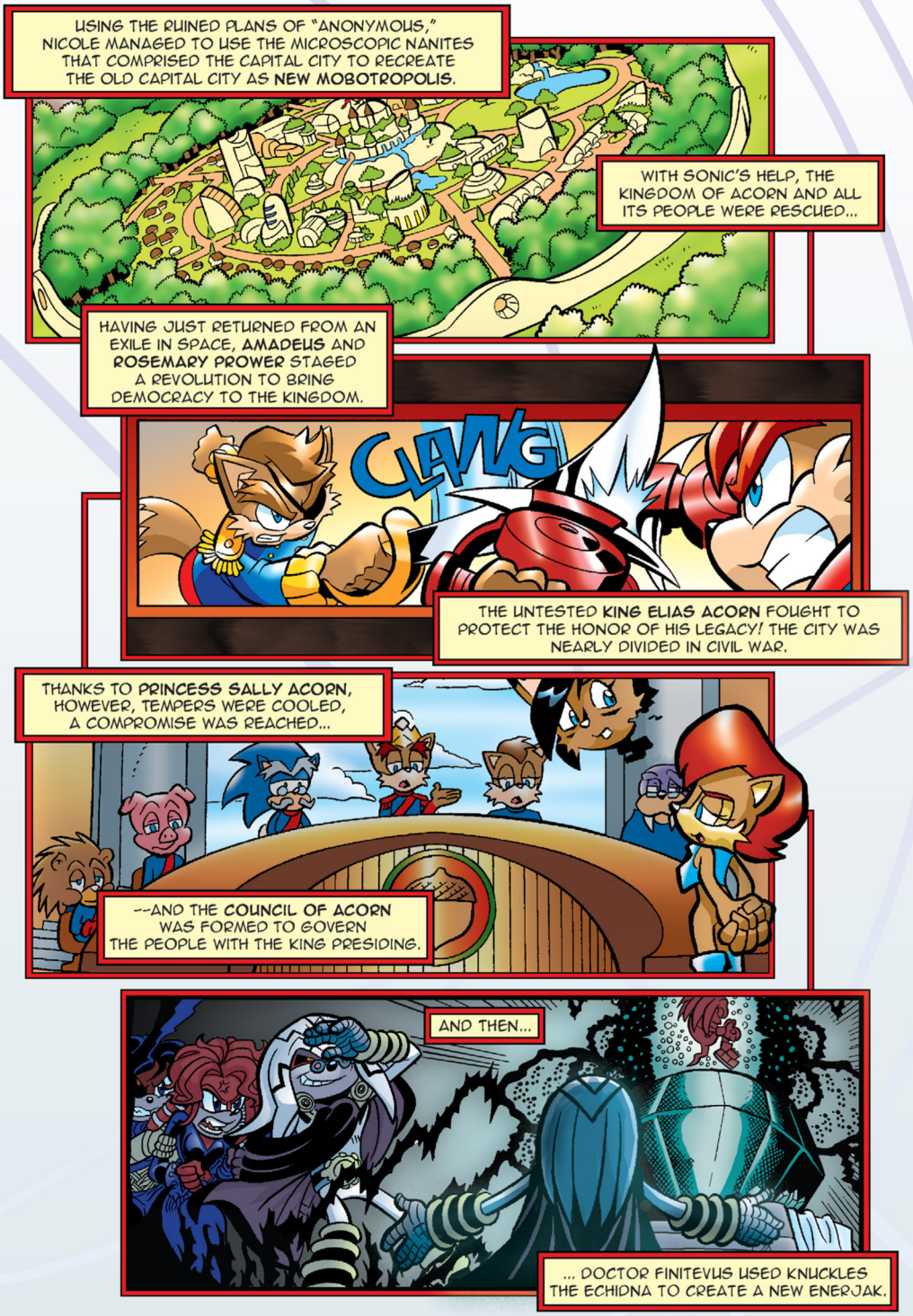

MEANWHILE...
VERY CLEVER, SONUGH! BURROWING DOWN BEFORE THE ROCK HIT US!
THESE ARE THE UNDERGROUND TUNNELS WHERE WE LIVE!
FOLLOW ME ... LAST ONE THERE IS A ROTTEN VELOCIRAPTOR EGG!!
YUK!
SOON...
WON'T YOU STAY FOR DINNER, SONIC?
I TOLD YOU... ROTTEN VELOCIRAPTOR EGG!!!
UNHHH... WHAT ARE YOU HAVING?
CAVE SWEET CAVE
HEY, LOOK WHO DROPPED BY! MY FRIENDS THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS!!
HI!!!
WHOA! DEJA VU DELUXE!
HEY, WHY DOESN'T THE WHOLE GROUP OF US GO OUTSIDE AND SPIN FOR SOME TAKE-OUT!!
SHRIEK!
GULP!
EASY ON THE "OUTSIDE," SONIC! WE DON'T GO "THERE"--IN FACT, WE'RE PLANNING ON BURROWING FURTHER UNDERGROUND!
SHUDDER! WHIMPER! TREMBLE!
WHAT?
5


YOU CAN'T DO THAT! YOU ARE MY ANCESTOR! YOU'VE GOTTA LIVE ON THE SURFACE... IN THE SUNSHINE AND FRESH AIR... OTHERWISE, I'LL EVOLVE INTO "SONIC THE MOLE"!
BONK!
BUT IT'S DANGEROUS UP THERE! DINOSAURS! ROBUGHNIK!!
YOU'LL ADAPT! USE YOUR BRAINS! HIDE IN THE HEDGES!
THE WHAT?!
OH, THAT'S RIGHT--YOU DON'T HAVE HEDGES YET!... ALLOW ME TO SHOW YOU, SAL-UGH!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
WAIT!!
SEE, YOU DIG UP THESE BUSHES AND REPLANT THEM IN A ROW... TRIM 'EM UP... ADD THE TWO LEVEL EFFECT!!
LAND SAKES!
DON'T YOU MEAN LAND-SCAPE?
GEE, THEY DO SEEM HAPPIER AND MORE FREE OUT HERE!
SURE! SOME DAY YOU'LL THANK ME FOR THIS, GREAT, GREAT, GREAT, GREAT, GREAT, GREAT, GREAT, GREAT, GREAT GRANDPA!
I'LL BE RIGHT BACK! I'M GOING TO INVENT THE SHOVEL!
6


WE'LL DO IT! LIKE YOU SAID... ADAPT!! USE OUR GRAINS!!
NO -- YOUR BRAINS!! WHOA!!
HOW RUDE! EAT, DISINTEGRATE AND RUN!
YEE-HA! I'M WHITE-WATER RAFTING DOWN THE TIMESTREAM!!
1027 BC
311 BC
0
1000
1492
1739
1945
1987
PTU!!
WHOOF! I GOTTA TALK TO THE BOSS ABOUT A STUNT DOUBLE!
SHOOOO
SPLAT!
SALLY! TAILS! ROTOR! HOW DID I GET BACK HERE?
THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS RAIDED ROBOTNIK'S HEAD-QUARTERS!
WE SWIPED HIS TIME MACHINE, AND BROUGHT YOU HOME!!
JUST THEN, BACK IN THE STONE AGE...
HMMM... NO... I THINK I LIKED THEM BETTER OVER THERE!
(HUFF! PUFF!) I WISH SONIC WOULD COME BACK... ;WHEEZE; SO I COULD PERSONALLY THANK HIM... ...GRRR!
HEY, WE'D LIKE THAT ZANY SONIC TO COME BACK TOO! I'D HEDGE ANY BETS THAT YOU'D LIKE THAT TOO!
IF SO, CHISEL... UH... WRITE A LETTER TO "SONIC-GRAMS"!
THE END
7

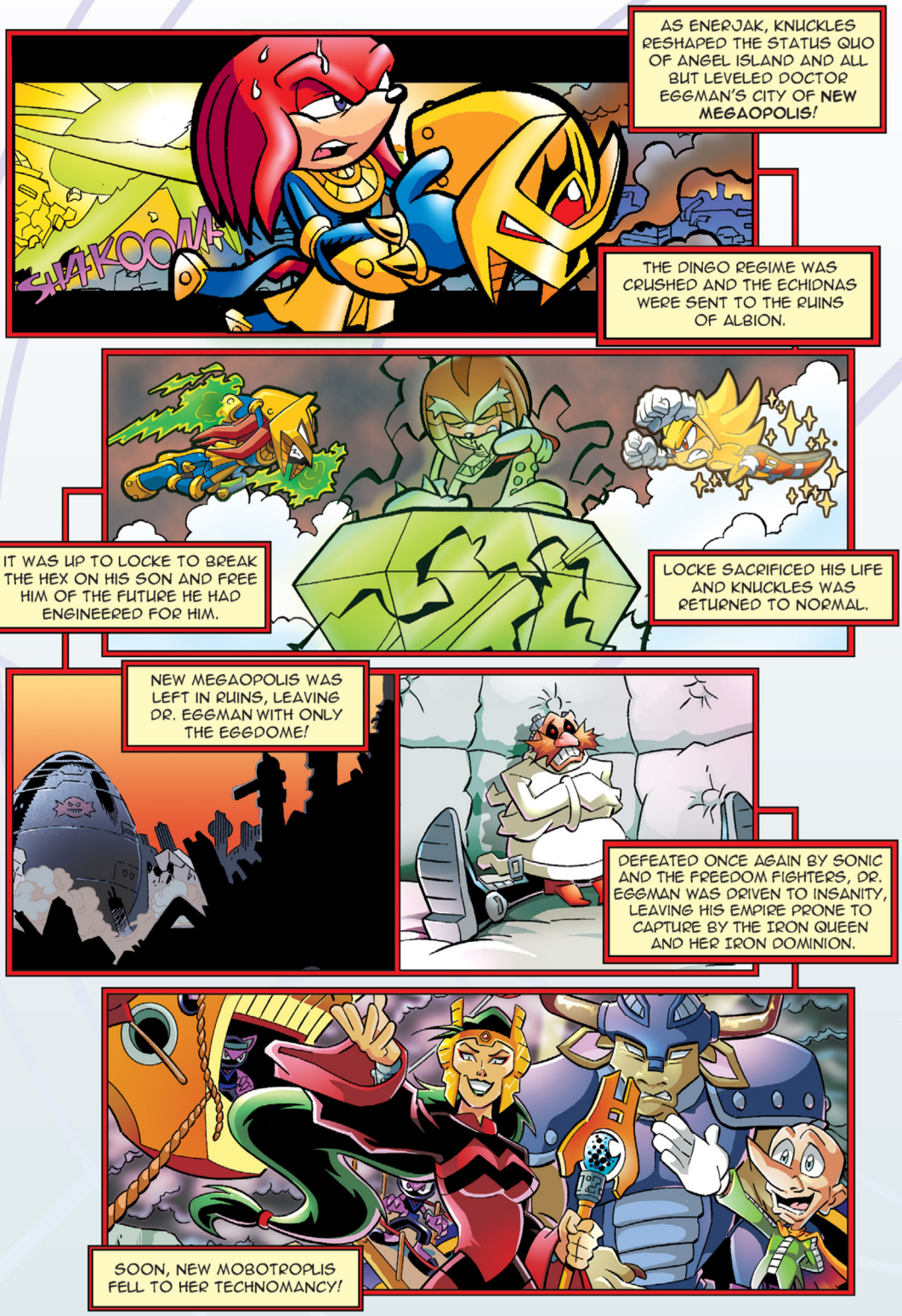
ACTS 1-25 AVAILABLE IN SONIC SUPER SPECIAL MAGAZINE #'S 1-5 ON SALE NOW!


MANY VILLAINS RALLIED TO MAMMOTH MOGUL, WHO TRIED TO USE THE LAST OF THE SOURCE OF ALL TO CONQUER THE WORLD ONCE AGAIN.
THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS DEFEATED MOGUL, WHO WAS ONCE AGAIN CAPTURED AND IMPRISONED BY DR. EGGMAN.
THE SHADOWY ANONYMOUS REVEALED HIMSELF TO BE TO BE EGGMAN'S OWN "SON" A.D.A.M!
USING SONIC'S FRIENDS, NAMELY TOMMY TURTLE, A.D.A.M. SUMMONED THE CHAOS EMERALDS OF THE UNIVERSE AND FOUGHT SUPER SONIC TO A STANDSTILL!
TOMMY SACRIFICED HIMSELF TO DESTROY A.D.A.M., AND THE CHAOS EMERALDS WERE FED INTO THE ZONE OF SILENCE.
THE GOD-LIKE FEIST USED THEIR POWER TO CREATE THE SPECIAL ZONE AND REDUCED THE GEMS TO SEVEN COLORED EMERALDS.
SONIC'S LOSSES CONTINUED TO MOUNT, AS THE EGGMAN EMPIRE LAUNCHED A DEVASTATING ATTACK AND BURNED KNOTHOLE TO THE GROUND, NEARLY WIPING OUT THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS AND EVERYONE THEY FOUGHT TO PROTECT!


USING THE RUINED PLANS OF "ANONYMOUS," NICOLE MANAGED TO USE THE MICROSCOPIC NANITES THAT COMPRISED THE CAPITAL CITY TO RECREATE THE OLD CAPITAL CITY AS NEW MOBOTROPOLIS.
WITH SONIC'S HELP, THE KINGDOM OF ACORN AND ALL ITS PEOPLE WERE RESCUED...
HAVING JUST RETURNED FROM AN EXILE IN SPACE, AMADEUS AND ROSEMARY PROWER STAGED A REVOLUTION TO BRING DEMOCRACY TO THE KINGDOM.
CLANG!
THE UNTESTED KING ELIAS ACORN FOUGHT TO PROTECT THE HONOR OF HIS LEGACY! THE CITY WAS NEARLY DIVIDED IN CIVIL WAR.
THANKS TO PRINCESS SALLY ACORN, HOWEVER, TEMPERS WERE COOLED, A COMPROMISE WAS REACHED...
--AND THE COUNCIL OF ACORN WAS FORMED TO GOVERN THE PEOPLE WITH THE KING PRESIDING.
AND THEN...
... DOCTOR FINITEVUS USED KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA TO CREATE A NEW ENERJAK.

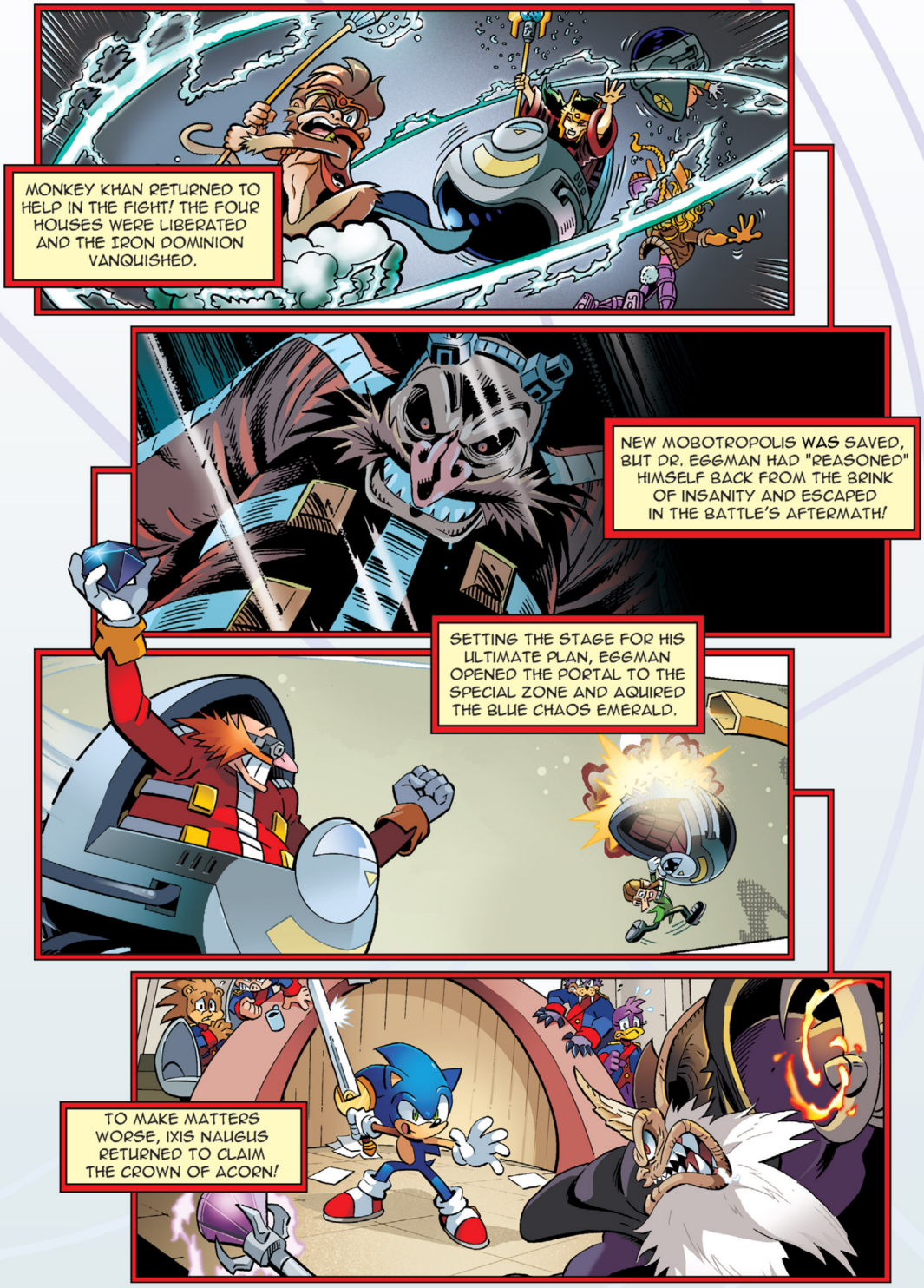
MOBIUS TIMELINE

ACT 28 A BOLD NEW BEGINNING...


SHAKOOM!
AS ENERJAK, KNUCKLES RESHAPED THE STATUS QUO OF ANGEL ISLAND AND ALL BUT LEVELED DOCTOR EGGMAN'S CITY OF NEW MEGAOPOLIS!
THE DINGO REGIME WAS CRUSHED AND THE ECHIDNAS WERE SENT TO THE RUINS OF ALBION.
IT WAS UP TO LOCKE TO BREAK THE HEX ON HIS SON AND FREE HIM OF THE FUTURE HE HAD ENGINEERED FOR HIM.
LOCKE SACRIFICED HIS LIFE AND KNUCKLES WAS RETURNED TO NORMAL.
NEW MEGAOPOLIS WAS LEFT IN RUINS, LEAVING DR. EGGMAN WITH ONLY THE EGGDOME!
DEFEATED ONCE AGAIN BY SONIC AND THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS, DR. EGGMAN WAS DRIVEN TO INSANITY, LEAVING HIS EMPIRE PRONE TO CAPTURE BY THE IRON QUEEN AND HER IRON DOMINION.
SOON, NEW MOBOTROPLIS FELL TO HER TECHNOMANCY!

MOBIUS TIMELINE

ACT 29 NEW WORLD ORDER


MONKEY KHAN RETURNED TO HELP IN THE FIGHT! THE FOUR HOUSES WERE LIBERATED AND THE IRON DOMINION VANQUISHED.
NEW MOBOTROPOLIS WAS SAVED, BUT DR. EGGMAN HAD "REASONED" HIMSELF BACK FROM THE BRINK OF INSANITY AND ESCAPED IN THE BATTLE'S AFTERMATH!
SETTING THE STAGE FOR HIS ULTIMATE PLAN, EGGMAN OPENED THE PORTAL TO THE SPECIAL ZONE AND AQUIRED THE BLUE CHAOS EMERALD.
TO MAKE MATTERS WORSE, IXIS NAUGUS RETURNED TO CLAIM THE CROWN OF ACORN!

MOBIUS TIMELINE

ACT 30 DEATH EGG MARK 2

THE EGGDOME WAS THEN LAUNCHED INTO THE SKY AND REVEALED TO BE THE DEATH EGG II, WHICH UNLEASHED A DEVASTATING NEW WEAPON.
DR. EGGMAN'S "GENESIS WAVE" RESHAPED ALL OF MOBIUS. EVERYTHING OLD WAS NEW AGAIN, BUT THE PRESENCE OF OLD MOBIUS LINGERED UNTIL...
...MEMORIES RETURNED! SUPER SONIC USED THE CHAOS EMERALDS ABOARD THE DEATH EGG TO UNDO THE GENESIS WAVE AND SET THE WORLD BACK TO THE WAY IT WAS.
SALLY ACORN THEN MADE THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE TO DISABLE THE DEATH EGG II'S WORLD ROBOTICIZER, INVERTING THE BEAM ONTO HERSELF TO SAVE THE WORLD.

MOBIUS TIMELINE

ACT 31 IXIS RESURGENCE

EVENTS ESCALATED QUICKLY FOLLOWING SALLY'S ROBOTICIZATION. NAUGUS BECAME KING, NICOLE WAS EXILED AND ROTOR RESIGNED FROM THE COUNCIL OF ACORN! THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS HAD BEEN TRULY DEFEATED.
NAUGUS NOW CONTINUES TO SUFFER FROM THE GENESIS WAVE! PAST LIVES AND MUTATIONS MAKE HIM UNSTABLE --WHAT WILL HE DO IN HIS DESPERATION?
THE DEFEAT OF THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS HAS INSPIRED A NEW WAVE OF HEROISM TO TAKE ITS PLACE.
TEAM FREEDOM IS FORMED! THE CITY HAS HER PROTECTORS!
TEAM FIGHTERS TAKES THE FIGHT TO DR. EGGMAN! A NEW AGE BEGINS FOR OUR HEROES!
AND THE FUTURE CONTINUES TO UNFOLD ...

INTERVIEW WITH - MATT HERMS - COLORIST -

SSSM: Matt, you've been instrumental in building the look of the modern Sonic the Hedgehog comic universe, what inspiration to do you draw from as you add color and form to an entire universe?

MH: The games! These characters were born in the 16-Bit era, when video game color exploded onto our TVs like never before. It was bright and fun, at times a little chaotic. I remember Mike Pellerito -- editor on Sonic when I was first hired -- describing Sonic's world as a "bowl full of candy," and that's always stuck with me.

MATT HERMS
ARCHIE ACTION COLORIST SUPERSTAR!

SSSM: What were your favorite Sonic games growing up?

MH: Sonic the Hedgehog 2, for sure. It put a Sega Genesis in my home, and introduced me to Sonic and Tails and their world. Afterwards, I was hooked on Sonic and looking up his adventures in cartoons and the comics!

SWEET DREAMS
MATT GOT TO COLOR AN ADAPTION OF ONE OF HIS FAVORITE SONIC GAMES IN 2011's "SONIC GENESIS" STORY. AVAILABLE NOW AT ALL MAJOR BOOK STORES AND FOR DIGITAL DOWNLOAD!

SSSM: You're now colorist on the entire Archie Video Game comic line, Sonic the Hedgehog, Sonic Universe and Mega Man. What sorts of approaches do you take to break the titles apart from one another?

MH: As a colorist, the most important thing in each book is to play to the style and strengths of the pencilers and inkers I'm working with. These are all very bright and colorful books, and there is usually a theme or locale prominent in each story arc that can inspire my palette choices. It's ultimately a balancing act -- you want every book

MATT OF ALL TRADES

ASIDE FROM HIS USUAL COLOR WORK ON THE ARCHIE ACTION TITLES, MATT HAS BEEN KNOWN TO PENCIL A FEW ISSUES OF SONIC THE HEDGEHOG. SEE THE AWESOMENESS IN SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #'S 185 - 188 AVAILABLE NOW ON THE SONIC COMICS APP!

to be distinct from each other, but similar enough that they could all cross over... Perhaps in a historic comic book event this Spring/Summer 2013! (Editors aren't the only ones that can make plugs.)

SSSM: You're also an accomplished penciler, can you tell us a little bit about your first Archie Sonic story?

THE COLORS FEEL SO RIGHT!

OUR BOY MATT HAS COLORED COUNTLESS COVERS FOR ALL OF OUR ARCHIE ACTION TITLES, HERE'S THE VERY FIRST ONE!

MH: Totally surreal! I grew up reading these books, so it was crazy to think I was now drawing one. It was #185 to 188 -- Mina Mongoose was back! And Mammoth Mogul and a whole slew of villains! I was really nervous to finally be penciling a book, but way past excited that I was contributing to a comic that meant so much to me.

PALLET PUPPET PANIC

THE WORLD OF SONIC COMES ALIVE WITH MATT'S CANDY LAND COLORING EXPERTISE!

SSSM: Any advice to aspiring comic book colorists out there?

MH: Work hard! You're one of the last legs in the marathon of putting together a comic book, so it's important to have a great work ethic and to practice lots -- with Photoshop as well as paint, markers... and pencils! Practicing drawing can help you be a better colorist too! ■